

SEPTEMBER

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represents AEC
in Washington

INSIDE
Kinston Bulldogs
begin football
season with win

The Elba Clipper

Volume 109, Number 12

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, September 1, 2005

1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

River stage reporting to become "Real Time" with pending changes



Reports are that the Army Corp of Engineers will soon discontinue funding of the river stage gauge system now in place on Pea River and other waterways.

However the work will be continued, and the net results could probably be faster "real time" information. This will be the work of Don Hyde, flood warning specialist for Choctawhatchee, Pea and Yellow Rivers Watershed Management Authority. His gauge readings will be immediately available, on computer, to the National Weather Service in Tallahassee, Fla. from gauges already in place throughout the nine county area covered by the authority. These pictures show representatives of the National Weather Service from Tallahassee examining both their place gauges and the manual river reading equipment at the U. S. 84 Bridge across Pea River in Elba.



Citizens encouraged to attend Drug awareness program coming to Elba this month

by Linda Hodge, Editor

People say the key to success is education, and local law enforcement officers hope education will play a major role in the fight against the drugs.

The Elba Police Department and ABC Drug Operations have combined forces to bring the statewide program, Operation Save Teens, to Elba, and they are encouraging parents, grandparents, students and all concerned citizens to make an effort to attend. The program really is not recommended for anyone below the age of a seventh grade student as material unsuitable for younger children will be shown including a graphic video and slide presentation.

The program will be a county-wide open meeting offered at no charge. It will be held Tuesday, Sept. 27, at 6 p.m. at the Elba High School auditorium.

Operation Save Teens focuses strictly on drug problems facing today's youth, and Elba Police Officer Dean Blair said it can be an eye-opening experience for someone as they are educated on the different drugs available to teens.

At this meeting, Blair said investigators will discuss current drug trends in and around Coffee County, and perhaps the use of this drug continues to plague the area.

REMINDER

Chapter Two of Gridiron
Elba is located on Page 14
of this week's paper.

Blair said it is because of this trend that the two law enforcement agencies want to educate as many people as possible to try and prevent the tragic consequences officials have seen in other areas around the state from occurring in this community.

The presentation also will address illegal drugs such as "club drugs", marijuana, cocaine, and issues dealing with the illegal use of prescription medication and alcohol abuse.

Please See SAVE, Page 14

Riley awards grant to help fight use and sale of illegal drugs

Gov. Bob Riley has awarded a \$147,500 grant to the Pike County Commission to help fight the use and sale of illegal drugs in Pike and Coffee counties.

The grant will enable 12th Judicial Circuit Drug and Violent Crimes Task Force to continue undercover operations, conduct raids on unlawful drug labs and investigate and prosecute drug offenders in an effort to rid the area of illegal drugs. The task force will use the funds to purchase specialized equipment, including drug test kits, surveillance equipment and body armor.

"Drugs and crime often go hand-in-hand, so we must continue aggressive efforts to remove illegal drugs from our communities," Riley said. "I

Please See DRUGS, Page 14

County avoids damage from Hurricane Katrina storms

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Late last week, residents of Coffee County wondered exactly what impact Hurricane Katrina would have on the area. By the end of the weekend, it appeared the local area would dodge the worst parts of the storm as it traveled further west than originally expected; however, it was a Category Five hurricane and the area most likely would see some stormy weather.

Early Monday morning, Aug. 29, Hurricane Katrina made landfall wreaking havoc on Louisiana, Mississippi and Southwest Alabama. The biggest threat to Coffee County

and surrounding counties became the possibility of tornadoes.

According to Larry Walker, assistant director of the Coffee County Emergency Management Agency, Coffee County was placed under a tornado warning on three separate occasions throughout the day Monday. Fortunately though, he said no damage was reported from any of those warnings.

As a matter of fact, Walker said Tuesday afternoon of this week that his department had received no reports at all of substantial damage in Coffee County from the storms related to Hurricane Katrina.

He said the county had no significant problems with debris and no major power outages. He did say some power outages were reported here and there Monday, but most of that was caused by tree limbs hitting the lines. Such instances resulted in power being out for only a short amount of time in those specific areas.

"Coffee County was very fortunate again," Walker said. "We dodged bullets with Ivan, Dennis and now Katrina."

Walker also said no accidents were reported during the storms, and the local roads were heavily traveled by evacuees. On Tuesday, he said he had received several phone calls from people wondering about the condition of roads headed back towards the areas of Mississippi and Louisiana.

For those interested in such information, Walker offered several phone numbers to call. He said there is a toll-free number at 888-588-2848; however, he urged patience with this number because it has been busy. Other numbers include for Louisiana (225) 925-7500 and for Mississippi (601) 552-9100.

Area Happenings

THE 2005 ANNUAL COFFEE COUNTY SENIOR CENTER BANQUET will be Thursday, Sept. 1, from 5 p.m. until midnight at the Elba Civic Center. The event will include entertainment by local and regional bands, a silent auction, and a raffle. Tickets are \$10.00. For more information, call 334-338-1111.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ELBA/TROY BRIDGE CLUB will be held Thursday, Sept. 1, beginning at 6 p.m. at the Elba Civic Center. The meeting will include a presentation by local and regional bands, a silent auction, and a raffle. Tickets are \$10.00. For more information, call 334-338-1111.

COFFEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION will hold its regular meeting Thursday, Sept. 1, at 7 p.m. at the Elba Civic Center. The meeting will include a presentation by local and regional bands, a silent auction, and a raffle. Tickets are \$10.00. For more information, call 334-338-1111.

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LOCAL EMERGENCY PERSONNEL RESPONDED Wednesday, Aug. 24, to the scene of a one-vehicle accident on U.S. Highway 84 East near the water tower. The accident was reported at approximately 12:39 p.m. Upon arrival at the scene, police officers discovered a Ford Expedition, driven by a Crenshaw county resident, had left the roadway skidding and flipping before resting upside-down. Also responding to the scene were members of the Elba Fire Department. The driver was transported by Coffee County EMS to the local hospital but was reportedly conscious and communicating with officials at the scene. The accident was investigated by the Elba Police Department.

Hunter Goodson wins state giant cabbage growing contest

The Alabama Junior Master Gardener Program and the Alabama 4-H Program, in partnership with Bonnie Plant Farm, recently sponsored a Giant Cabbage Growing Contest throughout the county and state to see who could grow the largest cabbage.

Hunter was the son of Michael and Kelli Goodson of the New Hope community and is a 4-H member of Zion Chapel 6th grade club.



HUNTER GOODSON, a member of the Zion Chapel sixth grade 4-H club, measures his winning cabbage.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
with Fern Cox

A whole bunch of words cross our desk on a regular basis, but we would have it no other way. This week there were some lengthy comments by a Fredric Hambr, a writer for the Ayn Ran Institute in Irvine California. His theme caught our attention. Mr. Hambr suggest that: "On Labor Day, let us honor the true root of production and wealth: the human mind." In his writings, Hambr noted that every day there is some new gadget to make life easier, etc., all thought up by the human brain.

A high-ranking Army Corps of Engineers official who publicly criticized the Pentagon's decision to award Halliburton Co. a no-bid contract for work in Iraq has apparently been demoted. Bunnatine H. Greenhouse, who was openly critical of the Corps for the Halliburton contracts was reportedly removed from her office last week for "poor performance." She still has a job - so far, but is no longer a decision maker. So much for America's whistle blower laws to protect such people. It is probably good this writer is not a federal employee, as we have strong feelings that people should be allowed to voice opinions . . . especially when they are right, as was Greenhouse.

Sunday morning we drove up to the church with some prerecorded "unchurch" music playing in our vehicle. "One O'Clock Jump" is great Big Band music, but not often heard in area churches. We decided it was probably best to just keep the old mouth shut in Sunday School, at least until our mindset got in a bit more religious mode. The decision was actually successful!

The Wiregrass dodged another bullet this week when that major hurricane veered west after crossing the Southern tip of Florida. Our heart goes out to those in Louisiana, Mississippi and in the Mobile area, as they have a long, hard recovery ahead of them. Some undoubtedly feel they are never recover, but Elba flood victims can attest that the impossible is possible. Early damage reports put the total damage from this storm almost beyond our understanding. In fact the damage in New Orleans continues to compound, even as this is being written on Tuesday.

On the flip side of our concern is a certain amount of disgust. As the storm raged and people who refused to heed the call to leave the danger area began to get into trouble, they called for help. Rescue personnel couldn't go at that point because it would have seriously endangered their own lives. Hearing the reports of those asking, no by now they were begging, for help caused the hair on the back of our neck to bristle and us to have an urge to go shake them fiercely and say, "we told you to get out yesterday!". It was of course too late for that but hopefully those folks will not get in front of some TV camera and belittle that those volunteer rescue folks didn't come to them fast enough.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, August 22, 2005, investigated the following incidents: one missing person, three for theft of property, one menacing, one private property.

On Tuesday, August 23, 2005, the Elba Police Department investigated the following incidents: one domestic violence, one assault, one open container and one criminal mischief.

The following arrests were made: one for theft of property, one for burglary, one for failure to appear, one for possession of a controlled substance and one for failure to pay.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: three for not wearing a seat belt, one for defective equipment, one for a switched tag, two for a suspended driver's license, one for a revoked driver's license, six for speeding, one for reckless endangerment, one for attempting to elude, one for no insurance, one for failure to display valid insurance, one for an open container, two for no proof of insurance and one for an expired tag.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows: MONDAY, AUGUST 22 - River stage - 8.77 feet (6:02 a.m.); Wreck reported on Hwy. 87 N. (4:19 p.m.).

TUESDAY, AUGUST 23 - River stage - 8.17 feet (6:03 a.m.).

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 432 County Rd. 148 (4:41 a.m.); River stage - 7.78 feet (7:52 a.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to a

house fire at 349 Brunson Circle (9:17 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 349 Brunson Circle (9:20 a.m.); One-vehicle accident reported on Hwy. 84 E. near the water tower (12:39 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to the wreck on Hwy. 84 E. (12:41 p.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to the wreck on Hwy. 84 E. (12:47 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 4491 County Rd. 306 (1:04 p.m.); Flight in progress reported at the Elba Villas (4:17 p.m.); Flight in progress reported at the Elba Villas (4:47 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on County Rd. 427 (6:55 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1237 Forest Lake Dr. (10:01 p.m.).

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 547 County Rd. 407 (9:17 a.m.); Minor wreck reported at the intersection of the 203 Bypass and Hickman Ave. (11:09 a.m.).

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to a wreck at the intersection of County Rd. 223 and County Rd. 239 (12:50 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 633 County Rd. 111 (6:47 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 22006 Hwy. 87 N. (8:24 p.m.); Disturbance (noise) reported in the area of Jackson St. (11:25 p.m.).

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27 - Possible burglary reported at 349 Brunson Circle (4:04 a.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to respond to a fire

ALDOT releases traffic advisories for Mobile and Baldwin County area

The Alabama Department of Transportation reopened Bankhead Tunnel Tuesday, Aug. 30, and is encouraging local Interstate 10 traffic to use the Bankhead Tunnel, sparing the Wallace Tunnel for I-10 through-traffic only.

The Causeway remains closed. ALDOT is assessing the extent of damage. The Causeway consists of U.S. 90/98 and connects Mobile County to Baldwin County, running parallel to I-10. There is confirmed damage on the Tensaw River Bridge along the Causeway with additional damage assessments continuing. As of press time, there was no estimate of when the Causeway will

reopen. Alabama transportation officials expect congestion and delays along main routes across southwest Alabama in coming day, especially in urban areas and along major junctions.

The Cochrane-Africatown USA Bridge remains closed until further notice. ALDOT engineers at noon Tuesday were still on the bridge conducting inspections and damage assessments.

The Cochrane Bridge goes

over the Mobile River along U.S. 90 and the U.S. 98 Truck Route, providing a connection between I-10 and I-65. It provides mandatory bypass of the Bankhead Tunnel (U.S. 98) and Wallace Tunnels (I-10) for trucks carrying hazardous material cargo and oversized loads. Hazardous cargo and oversized loads are being rerouted via I-65 and State Highway 59.

The latest travel and road closure information for Alabama roadways is available at the

Alabama Department of Transportation's web site at: www.dot.state.al.us. ALDOT's toll-free line (1-888-588-2848) is being staffed from 7 a.m. until 10 p.m. daily to provide personal assistance to callers seeking travel and road closure information.

New releases regarding road conditions and transportation infrastructure damage sustained from Hurricane Katrina also will be posted on the ALDOT web site at: www.dot.state.al.us.

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A home made fonder by the company of friends and neighbors,
A house made stronger by the presence of Christ.
With grateful hearts, we give thanks to God!

WORSHIP WITH US
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Elba's chamber banquet set for Sept. 22

The Elba Chamber of Commerce will sponsor the annual chamber banquet during the evening of Thursday, Sept. 22, at the Elba Recreation Center, located on Claxton Avenue. The event will begin at 6:30 p.m.

The theme of this year's banquet will be "Tradition with Vision" - the new city motto. Buck Claines will prepare a meal of grilled pork chops with all the trimmings.

An awards ceremony will be held to honor some of those who have been willing to serve throughout the year. Entertainment will be provided by the Elba High School FFA Quartet and the LBWCC

Coffee County
Schools Menu

Sept. 5-9, 2005

BREAKFAST

Monday - Labor Day Holiday
Tuesday - Breakfast Pizza, Cereal, Juice, Milk
Wednesday - Egg & Cheese Omelet, Toast, Cereal, Jelly, Juice, Milk
Thursday - Cheese Toast, Cereal, Juice, Milk
Friday - Pancakes, Syrup, Cereal, Juice, Milk

LUNCH

Monday - Labor Day Holiday
Tuesday - Sausage Pizza, Grilled Chicken Sandwich, Dill Spear, Baked Tater Tots, English Beans, Fruit, Milk
Wednesday - Fried Chicken, Baked Ham, Cream Potatoes w/Gravy, Green Beans, Rolls, Fruit, Milk
Thursday - Hamburger, Hot Dog, Oven Fries, Baked Beans, Fruit, Milk
Friday - Ham & Cheese Hoagie, Steak Sandwich, Butter Beans, Okra, Rice-Krispie Treat, Fruit, Milk

SHARE YOUR
VIEWS - WRITE
A LETTER TO THE
EDITOR

Ensemble. Door prizes will be given at the end of the program. Tickets are on sale now at the Elba Chamber of Commerce office, 329 Putnam Street, or from any chamber board member. The cost is \$17.50, and all tickets must be purchased in advance by Friday, Sept. 16. No tickets will be sold the night of the banquet.

Dress for the event is casual.

Kinston PTO publishing cookbooks

are \$10.

Alumni members will have their name printed with the recipe along with the year of their graduation. Former/retired faculty and support staff will have their name, title and years of service printed with each recipe.

Cookbooks will be received before the Christmas holiday. To order a cookbook, send a check or money order payable to the Kinston PTO, along with the number of books requested to: Kinston PTO • P.O. Box 588 • Kinston, AL 36453. Recipes also should be sent to this address.

If cookbooks need to be mailed, add an additional \$2.50 to cover shipping costs.

For more information, call Cindy Smith at 565-3727 or Jennifer Holley at 565-3186.

CARD
OF
THANKS

LEROY HUDSON FAMILY

To all our family, friends & neighbors who were with us in our time of need & during Leroy's final days, we want to say thank you for your prayers, calls, cards, food, flowers, visits & for all the love you gave to us during this very difficult time. May God bless each of you in a very special way.

A special thank you to Dr. Cochran & staff for always being there for us in our time of need. God bless you. Nellie, Charlotte & Family The Leroy Hudson Family 9/1-chg.

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Obituaries

D.C. KEMP

Mr. D.C. Kemp, age 86, of Elba, Ala., died Friday, Aug. 26, 2005 at his residence.

Funeral services were held Aug. 28, 2005 at the Zion Chapel Baptist Church with Rev. Ben Amlong and Rev. Chris Barrow officiating. Burial followed in Evergreen Cemetery of Elba with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Those wishing to make memorial contributions are asked to do so in care of the Alabama Chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation; 14 Office Park Circle, Suite 115, Birmingham, Alabama 35223.

Survivors include his wife: Mildred Kemp, Elba; his daughter: Kathy (husband, Dikes) Weeks, Elba; two grandsons, two great-grandchildren; one brother: James Kemp, Montgomery, Ala.; four sisters: Myrtle McCullough, Thelma Thomas and Marie Henderson, all of Elba; Lucille Kendrick, Vernon, Fla.

LEROY STOUDEMIRE

Mr. Leroy Stoudemire, age 78, of Detroit, Mich., formerly of Elba, Ala., died Aug. 13, 2005 at his home.

Funeral services were held from Northwest Chapel James H. Cole Home for Funerals in Detroit with Chapel Minister officiating. The burial followed in Metropolitan Memorial Gardens of Belleville, Mich. with James H. Cole Home for Funerals directing.

Mr. Stoudemire was preceded in death by two sisters, Annie Ruth Beckwith and Johnnie Mae Daniels.

Survivors include his wife: Irene Stoudemire; one sister:

Mary Lee, Detroit; three brothers: James Stoudemire, Detroit, Eddie B. Stoudemire, M.J. Caldwell, both of Elba; two brothers-in-law: Charles Lee, Detroit, James Daniels, Elba; two sisters-in-law: Pearl Stoudemire, Elba, and Laura Brooks, La Grange, Ga.

Funeral planning
now at
Hayes
Funeral Home
For details
Call 897-2225

Our Thanks

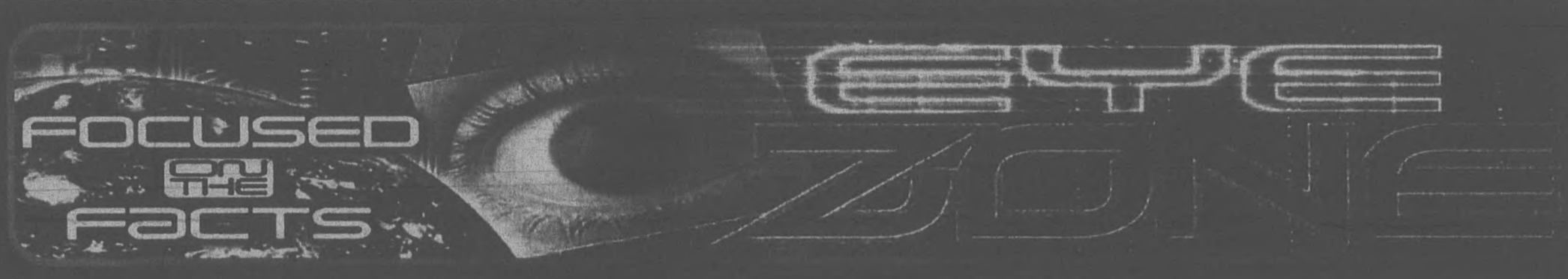
Putting Mother in a nursing home was very difficult for us. When the time came, we chose Elba, our home. What a right decision that was!

For two years, she was embraced by the dedicated and compassionate staff and dear residents who now seem like family to us. In our humble way, we thank the staff for caring beyond just meeting her needs and for showing her the respect she so deserved. We are also grateful for their tenderness and sympathetic support as we watched her physically leave us.

To our relatives, long-time friends, and acquaintances, we, in our humble way, extend our heartfelt gratitude for the enduring tributes to Mother: your prayers, the wealth of food, the beautiful flowers, the compassionate support. All the sincere gestures helped to ease our sorrow and lift our spirits.

Mother's life was blessed by the goodness that lives in and around Elba. We too, have been blessed, and we are proud to be from this small town. You truly have a "big heart."

The Family of Luna Kimbro Roberts



The Price of Peace

As the clock inched closer to 9 A.M., the soldier and the sailor nervously paced the deck of the USS Missouri. The soldier was General Douglas MacArthur, Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces. The sailor was Admiral Chester W. Nimitz. It was the morning of September 2, 1945. The men were awaiting the arrival of a delegation of Japanese politicians and military officers who would sign the surrender documents to end World War II.

In late July 1945, Allied governments had demanded that Japan surrender when they issued the Potsdam Declaration. Japan had ignored the demand. At the time, military leaders were planning an Allied invasion of Japan that was expected to cost the lives of more than 500,000 Allied soldiers.

Everything changed on August 6, 1945, when the world learned that American scientists had created what Brigadier General Leslie Groves called "the most terrible weapon known in human history." On that day, the Enola Gay, a B-29 bomber, flew over the Japanese city of Hiroshima and dropped the world's first atomic bomb. In an instant, over 40,000 Japanese died.

Nevertheless, Japan refused to surrender. As a result, President Truman authorized a second atomic attack on Nagasaki three days later.

That was enough. With over 100,000 of its citizens killed in the two attacks, the Japanese government sent a message to the United States through Swiss diplomats on August 10, 1945.

It said, in part: "The Japanese Government are ready to accept the terms enumerated in the joint declaration which was issued at Potsdam on July 26th, 1945, by the heads of the Governments of the United States, Great Britain, and China, and later modified by the Soviet Government, [2] with the understanding that the said declaration does not prejudice any demand which prejudices the prerogatives of His Majesty as a Sovereign Ruler."

The Atomic Bomb and the End of World War II: A Collection of Primary Sources. Using original documents, this project from the National Security Archive at George Washington University tells the story of the final months of World War II. Included are both American and Japanese memos, diary entries, letters, diplomatic cables, and news articles that remained classified for fifty years after the end of the war.

Web Address: <http://tinyurl.com/d43p1>

We thank our partners for their commitment to our community, our schools, and our young people. Together, we ensure teachers and students receive all learning materials at no cost to them.

E-mail your questions or comments to info@tinyurl.com

In the forty-four months since the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, forcing America into the war, over 16,000,000 Americans had donned military uniforms. More than 400,000 of them now lay under six feet of dirt, never to see another sunrise or sunset.

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Five days later, on August 15, the Japanese Emperor announced the nation's surrender in a radio broadcast.

The Japanese delegation arrived at two minutes to nine. Within five minutes, they had signed or sunset.

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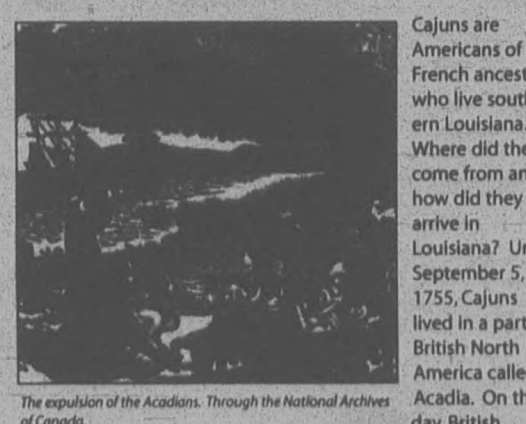
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IT HAPPENED
THIS WEEK

announced they were seizing all the farms and homes belonging to French settlers. The settlers were then deported to the American colonies. Where was Acadia, and what is it called today? Do you need to find the answer, or want to get more information? Go to <http://tinyurl.com/eg22>

the surrender documents. Nine military leaders representing the United States, Great Britain, Canada, China, Australia, New Zealand, Russia, France, and the Netherlands then added their signatures.

That afternoon, General Douglas MacArthur arrived in Tokyo, where he spent the next five and a half years overseeing the rebuilding of Japan. His decisions during that time helped fuel an economic resurgence that saw Japan become an economic powerhouse during the second half of the twentieth century. Find out more about the last days of World War II. Take The Web Journey!

Next Week: The Hunter

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John Fernin Cox - PUBLISHER
Linda Hodge - EDITOR
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$19 per year
6 Months - \$10, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$21 per year - including tax
6 months - \$11
Outside Alabama - \$24 per year - 6 months - \$13



LIFESTYLES

Wiregrass Chapter Alabama Society Sons of The American Revolution meets in Elba

On Saturday, August 20th members and families of the Wiregrass Chapter, Alabama Society Sons of The American Revolution met at Brunson Farms in Elba for their annual picnic, courtesy of Marion and Nancy Brunson. Throughout the year, except July and August, the chapter meets at the

Rawls Hotel in Enterprise at 11:30 AM on the third Thursday of each month. The SAR is a patriotic group dedicated to the preservation of the heritage and history of the American Revolution era. All men who believe they may have a Revolutionary War ancestor are invited to inquire

regarding membership in the Wiregrass Chapter, Alabama Society Sons of The American Revolution. More information may be obtained by calling Jim Gilmer at 897-1255, John Wallace at 347-0661, or Bruce Taylor at 347-8736, or visiting the National SAR web site, www.sar.org.



98th Army "Silver Wings" Band

Coffee Count Arts Alliance announces their 2005/2006 Season

The Coffee County Arts Alliance opens its season with a free performance by the 98th Army "Silver Wings" Band from Fort Rucker on September 11, 2005, at St. Luke United Methodist Church in Enterprise at 2 p.m. Under the leadership of Commander and Conductor, CW3 Stephen L. Campbell, the afternoon performance will be a "Remembrance and American Inspirational Concert." Some of the selections will include "In Memoriam," "Stars and Stripes Forever," "God Bless America," "Amazing Grace," "Danny Boy," and "It Is Well With My Soul."

On October 18, 2005, the 54 talented musicians of The Alabama Symphony Orchestra will be under the direction of guest conductor Justin Brown at the Enterprise High School Auditorium at 7 p.m. The concert program, which is sponsored by Regions Bank with additional generous support from the Gloria Naramore Moody Foundation, will feature ASO Concertmaster Daniel Szasz performing Maxwell Davies' "A Spell for Green Corn" (The MacDonald Dances). The concert program also includes "Four Sea Interludes" from Peter Grimes by Britten, and after intermission, will conclude with Dvorak's brooding Symphony No. 7, The Gold Corporation

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Bradley's Florist & Gift Bridal Registry

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KELLEY FOODS RECENTLY WAS AWARDED THE 2004 Unipro New Member of the Year award at the annual Unipro Purchasing Conference held in Las Vegas, Nevada. This award recognizes the new member who has shown the most outstanding commitment to Unipro through participation in Unipro programs while advancing the reputation of the membership in the foodservice industry. Pictured above is (from left to right) Billy Myers, Kelley Foods; Jerry Kelley, Kelley Foods; Roger Toomey, Unipro; Eddie Kelley, Kelley Foods; and John Bektowski, Kelley Foods.



MAGGIE BETH ENGLISH celebrated her first birthday Friday, August 19, 2005. She is the daughter of Jim and Tammy English. Maggie is the daughter of Lois English and Rayford and Jane Hodge.



HUNTER GOODSON IS PRESENTED with plaque by Evelyn Rachell, 4-H regional extension agent, recognizing him as the state winner in the giant cabbage growing contest.



THE ELBA FIRE DEPARTMENT was dispatched Wednesday morning, Aug. 24, at approximately 9:17 a.m. to the scene of a house fire at 349 Brunson Circle in Elba. Reported, smoke was noticed coming from the home by members of the Elba water department who were working in the area at the time. A call was made to the Elba Police Department, and firefighters were dispatched in time to bring the incident quickly under control. Also responding to the scene were officers with the Elba Police Department and a unit from Coffee County EMS.

Ballroom Dancing classes offered at EOCC

The Enterprise campus of Enterprise-Ozark Community College will be offering ballroom dancing classes on Thursdays for six weeks beginning September 1, 2005 and ending October 6, 2005.

Basic Ballroom Dancing is scheduled from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. and Basic Latin Dancing is scheduled from 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. The cost per course is \$45.00 per couple. (Couples only please.)

Republican Women to meet September 21st

Republican Women OF Coffee County will be meeting at Po Polks Restaurant, 650 Ball Weevil Circle on Wednesday, September 21st at 11:30 AM for their luncheon meeting. Samatha (Sam) Shaw, candidate for State Auditor will be speaking. The menu will be a buffet and drink for \$8.00 inclusive. The public is invited. For reservations call Fay McCrary at 393-0471.

Wallace Community College to offer day and evening classes

In an effort to meet workforce demands, Wallace Community College will offer day and evening courses in Air Conditioning/Refrigeration and Cabinetry/Carpentry at the Wallace Campus in Dothan this fall.

Students in the Air Conditioning/Refrigeration program will learn the basic principles of air conditioning and refrigeration as well as acquire fundamental skills necessary to install, replace or repair air conditioning and refrigeration equipment.

Cabinetry/Carpentry courses allow students to learn the care and use of hand and power tools, common systems of construction, principles of estimating, blueprint reading and care and use of many building materials.

For more information about Air Conditioning/Refrigeration program, contact Ken Hester at 556-2238. For more information about Cabinetry/Carpentry, contact Eddie Thomas at 556-4222. Registration for fall semester is August 18 and 19. Classes begin August 22.

CHURCH & AREA NEWS

PASTOR'S CORNER

Rev. Ron Stallard, Pastor
Elba Church of God

Who knows the power of God's anger?

There is a day coming when God will deal with sinners, a day of visitation.

He deals with some to bring them to repentance, and there is no resisting the force of conviction when He sets them on; he deals with others to bring them to ruin. He deals with sinners in this life, when he brings upon them sore judgment; but the days of eternity are especially the days in which God will deal with them, when the full evils of God's wrath will be poured out without mixture.

In Ezekiel's day He warned the people that God was looking for a man to stand in the gap. And he found none. There was sin in Jerusalem and God told Ezekiel that the once proud God fearing people had forgotten him. Ezek 22:4 "You have become guilty because of the blood you have shed and have become defiled by the idols you have made. You have brought your days to a close, and the end of your years has come. Therefore I will make you an object of scorn to the nations and a laughing stock to all the countries. 5 Those who are near and those who are far away will mock you, O infamous city, full of turmoil.

God strikes at the hand of sin to convict and to put the sinner on a path of repentance but after a while he will smite the sinner. God sends messengers to warn and to lift up the name of Jesus. Those who worship Him in truth and Spirit will know their faith has given them reward. Those who worship Him with lip service only, God is not pleased and will make a show of them. We need to get real with God and have reverence for his house of worship and make it a Holy place.

Ezek 22:13-16 "I will surely strike my hands together at the unjust gain you have made and at the blood you have shed in your midst. 14 Will your courage endure or your hands be strong in the day I deal with you? I the LORD have spoken, and I will do it. 15 I will disperse you among the nations and scatter you through the countries; and I will put an end to your uncleanness. 16 When you have been defiled in the eyes of the nations, you will know that I am the LORD."

These are strong words, but a simple way to make everything good again. Respect the word of God and leave the pulpit unprofaned. Go to church to worship God. Be serious and not leave the altar, until you have resolved all of your issues. Make your relationship with God worth something. Know we as a people must change and return unto the righteous way of God.

Mt. Zion Baptist Church to host gospel singing on Saturday evening, September 10

Mt. Zion Baptist Church will be holding an evening of gospel singing Saturday, September 10, 2005 at 6 p.m. The featured group will be The Franklin's Gospel Group from Abbeville, Ala. The church is located at Mixson Cross Roads Community.

Outdoor Gospel Sing to be held September 3rd at Enon Baptist Church

An Outdoor Gospel Sing will be held at Enon Baptist Church on September 3 at 6:30 p.m. The featured groups will be Southern Tradition, Robert Williamson, Harrellson Family

Wednesday Music Recitals get underway at Troy University

Troy University music majors showcase their talents in weekly Wednesday Music Recitals beginning Sept. 14. Performed every other Wednesday in the Hawkins-Adams-Long Hall of Honors, the recitals are open to the public and are free, said Dr. Catherine Allard, who coordinates the program.

Each recital will begin at 1 p.m.

Elba Elementary School Menu

September 5 - 9, 2005

BREAKFAST	LUNCH
Monday - Labor Day	Monday - Labor Day Holiday
Tuesday - Pancake	Tuesday - Chicken Wiggle, English
Pup/Syrup, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Peas, Buttered Carrots, Roll, 1/2 Apple, Milk
Wednesday - Breakfast	Wednesday - Pizza, Green Salad,
Bagel, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Corn on Cob, Sliced Peas, Milk
Thursday - Egg, Jelly, Sausage, Patty, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Thursday - Vegetable Beef Soup, Cheese Sandwich, Crackers, 1/2 Orange, Milk
Friday - Cheese Grits, Toast & Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Friday - Hoagie, Oven Fries, Lettuce, Tomato, Dill Pickles, Cookies, Milk

September is "OPEN HOUSE MONTH" in the United Methodist Church.

The theme of the month is "OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS".

THE HAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH invites you to come and worship with them.

Worship is at 8:45 a.m. and Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

For more information go to our web site at www.elbaumc.org or call 897-2219.

WORSHIP IN THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE: THIS SUNDAY-YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID!

Worship is at 8:45 a.m. and Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

For more information go to our web site at www.elbaumc.org or call 897-2219.

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ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA 897-2006

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 14:1-24

***THINKING OF YOU, PRAYING FOR YOU: Calvin Tyson, Lizzie Tyson, Randolph Caldwell, Brandon Kelley, Rev. E. Magwood, Marie Rogers, Mattie Daniels, Ruby Ellison, Corine Daniels, Rev. J.L. Grayer, Lorine Cole

***AUGUST BIRTHDAYS: Andy Hardwick - August 29, Lance Cross - August 30, and Joyce Jones - August 31

***AN APPRECIATION PROGRAM: An Appreciation Program is to be held for Minister Robert Edwards given by Rev. Roderick Rideaux and The Anointed Voices. This event will take place at Bethlehem Baptist Church, Elba, Ala. on September 4, 2005 at 6:30 p.m.

All soloists, choir, and quartets are invited to attend.

***118 YEARS OF WORSHIP: A celebration of 118 years of worship will be held at Rocky Head Missionary Baptist Church, Hwy 125, Elba at 7 p.m. nightly. Auxiliary week is September 18-22, 2005 with the

church celebration being 25, 2005. Sunday school is at 9 a.m. and the worship service is at 10:30 a.m.

***ANNUAL CELEBRATION: The annual celebration of Deacons, Trustees and wives will be at Pleasant Shade Baptist Church of Enterprise on September 18, 2005 at 3 p.m. The guest speaker will be Rev. Lloyd S. Dillard of Tabernacle Baptist Church of Dothan, Ala.

***AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY: Question: Who was Brigadier General Hazel W. Jackson? Answer: First African American Women to achieve the rank of brigadier General and Chief of the Army Nurses Corps.

Question: What was the first African American Catholic College in the US? Answer: Xavier University. Notable Quote: The same hammer that shatters the glass forges the steel.

-Marcus Garvey, Pan-Africanist. This is a good day! Be grateful.

ERIA

Looking for Part-Time Music and Youth Minister

Zion Chapel Baptist Church is accepting resumes. Interested? Send Resume to: 27057 Hwy. 87 • Elba, AL 36323 Attn: Music Youth Search Committee

September is "OPEN HOUSE MONTH" in the United Methodist Church.

The theme of the month is "OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS".

THE ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH invites you to come and worship with them.

Worship is at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. with Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. We also have youth and children's programs. For more information call 897-2219 or go to our web site at www.elbaumc.org.

Worship is at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. with Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.

For more information go to our web site at www.elbaumc.org or call 897-2219.

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For more information go to our web site at www.elbaumc.org or call 897-2219.

Church Directory

Worship is at 8:45 a.m. and Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

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SCHOOLS



Tiger Tales

Editors:
Melanie Mularz &
Shawanna Wright

Journalism Spotlight

by Kayla Kelley

This week's journalism spotlight is shining on Sydney Brunson.

This newcomer to the program is the 16-year-old daughter of Bill and Rhonda Brunson.

This is Sydney's first year on the Elba High School journalism staff, where she has gained the position of Tiger Times Co-Editor. This junior is also involved in St. Beta and Mu Alpha Theta and is a member of the EHS Marching Tiger Band and Varsity Girls' Basketball team.

In her spare time, Sydney enjoys going to the lake, playing the guitar with the Covenant Community church band, reading and canoeing. Her favorite part about being in journalism is being able to work on the school newspaper.



Sydney Brunson

She is very excited about this upcoming year because she gets to be a part of making the 2006 EHS yearbook.

Sydney describes herself as active and outgoing, but we describe her as this week's journalism spotlight.



PICTURE OF THE WEEK...Can I please eat in peace?

Elba High's Casey Medlock represents AEC in Washington, D.C.

Casey Medlock, daughter of Pete and Eva Medlock, represented Alabama Electric Cooperative, Inc. (AEC) at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's (NRECA) Washington Youth Tour program as the AEC Youth Tour winner from Elba High School (EHS), June 18-23.

Medlock, a senior at EHS, is a member of Senior Beta Club, Mu Alpha Theta, Key Club, EHS Ambassadors, EHS Marching Band and EHS Concert Band. She is on the journalism staff and a participant in the Coffee County Youth Leadership Program. Medlock is the recipient of the Louis Armstrong Jazz Award and has been named to the National Honor Roll, Who's Who Among American High School Students, All-A Honor Roll, UAB Honor Band and Auburn Honor Band. She enjoys reading, playing piano and writing.

AEC has participated in the Washington Youth Tour program for 20 years, sponsoring the program at Andalusia High School, Elba High School, Opp High School, and Pike County High School. The winner from each school represented AEC at the NRECA Youth Tour program in Washington, D.C., and the winners and runners-up from each school attended the Alabama Rural Electric Association's (AREA) Montgomery Youth Tour in Montgomery, Ala., March 16-18.

Kayla Kelley, daughter of Jerry Kelley and Theresa Kelley, was named runner up. She is a member of Mu Alpha Theta, Key Club, Senior Beta Club, the EHS Marching Tiger Band and Girl Scout Troop #300. She is the editor of



Timothy Jackson, Justin Watkins, Elena McCormick, Kayla Kelley and Casey Medlock

"Tiger Tales," the school newspaper. She has been named to Who's Who Among American High School Students and the National Honor Roll, and she participated in the Duke University Talent Identification Program and Coffee County Youth Leadership Program. She enjoys baton twirling, swimming and spending time with her family and friends.

Elena McCormick, daughter of James McCormick and Melissa Martin, was first alternate. She is an active member of the Methodist youth group and choir, Senior Beta Club, Girl Scout Troop #300, VICA and Mu Alpha Theta. She has been named to Who's Who Among American High School Students and the National Honor Society, and she was nominated to attend the National Youth Leadership Forum. She enjoys playing piano, writing poetry, reading

and spending time with friends. Justin Watkins, son of Dennis and Sallia Watkins, was second alternate. He is a member of Spanish Club, the EHS Marching Band and Concert Band, Basketball Pep Band and EHS Ambassadors. He has been recognized with numerous medals for solo and ensemble performances and was an Honor Band member in 2002 and 2004. He enjoys reading, video games and movies.

Timothy Jackson, son of Tim and Carol Jackson, was third alternate. He is a member of Senior Beta Club, Spanish Club, Mu Alpha Theta, Student Council and FBLA. He is an EHS Ambassador and has been named to Who's Who Among American High School Students and the National Honor Society. Jackson also placed first at the 3A Golf State Championship. In his spare time, he enjoys golfing, writing

music and playing guitar, piano, and drums.

Co-Op Spotlight

by Judson Vaughan



Ashley Michele Carnley is in this week's spotlight.

Ashley is the 17-year-old senior of Mike and Cindy Carnley and is extremely involved here at Elba High. Her activities include St. Beta, Mu Alpha Theta, captain of Marching Tiger Band color guard, Key Club, First Baptist Church youth group president, being on the "A" Honor Roll and a member of Girl Scout Troop #300.

Ashley is employed by her father at Mike's Gym and has been employed there since June. Her numerous jobs include updating records, answering phones and keeping up the weight room.

Ashley's plans for the future include attending Troy University to achieve her BSN and then transferring to UAB to receive her nurses' and anesthetist's license.

This active senior can be described as outgoing, friendly, determined, and dependable. Congratulations Ashley on being in the spotlight!

Student Spotlight

by Melanie Mularz



This week's student spotlight is Emily Miller.

Emily is an eighth grader at Elba High School. She is the 13-year-old daughter of John and Sherry Miller.

Emily is involved in FCCLA and is a majorette in the school band. In her spare time she loves to talk on the phone and go shopping. She also enjoys twirling in the Elba Tiger Marching Band.

In the future, Emily plans to go to college and major in psychology. When asked to describe herself, she chose words like funny, ditty, and smart, but her friends think of her as a caring and a great person.

Congratulations, Emily, on being this week's student spotlight!

new head baseball coach and an assistant football coach.

Coach Brown attended Troy State University and has been teaching a total of 16 years. He has previously taught in Seminole County, Georgia (10 years), Emma Sanson, in Gadsden, Alabama (3 years), and Goshen, Alabama (3 years).

He has one brother, Tom, of Elba; and a sister, Laura, of Troy. He also has three nieces. Welcome to Elba Coach Brown!



Tim Brown

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH, EDUCATION & LOCALSCHOOLS!!!

Beverage industry announces new school vending policy:

Plan calls for lower-calorie and/or nutritious beverages in schools and new limits on soft drinks

The American Beverage Association (ABA), has approved a new school vending policy aimed at providing lower-calorie and/or nutritious beverages to schools and limiting the availability of soft drinks in schools.

The Alabama Soft Drink Association ("ASDA") strongly supports the new enclosed School Vending Policy according to a news release by the association Monday. This new School Vending Policy is very similar to the existing policy in Alabama, which was recently adopted by the Alabama Board of Education.

Alabama soft drink bottlers will continue to comply with the Board of Education policy and existing Federal Regulations and, in addition, by January 1, 2006, Alabama bottlers will also comply with the new ABA policy.

Under the new policy, the beverage industry will provide:

- Elementary Schools with only water and 100 percent juice.
- Middle Schools with only nutritious and/or lower calorie beverages, such as water, 100 percent juice, sports drinks, no-calorie soft drinks, and low-calorie juice drinks. No full-calorie soft drinks or full-calorie juice drinks with five percent or less juice until after school; and
- High Schools with a variety of beverage choices, such as bottled water, 100 percent juice, sports drinks, and juice drinks. No more than 50 percent of the vending selections will be soft drinks.

"Childhood obesity is a serious problem in the U.S. and the responsibility for finding common-sense solutions is shared by everyone, including our industry. We intend to be part of the solution by increasing the availability of lower-calorie and/or nutritious beverages in schools," said Susan K. Neely, ABA president and chief executive officer.

WARD'S PRINTING

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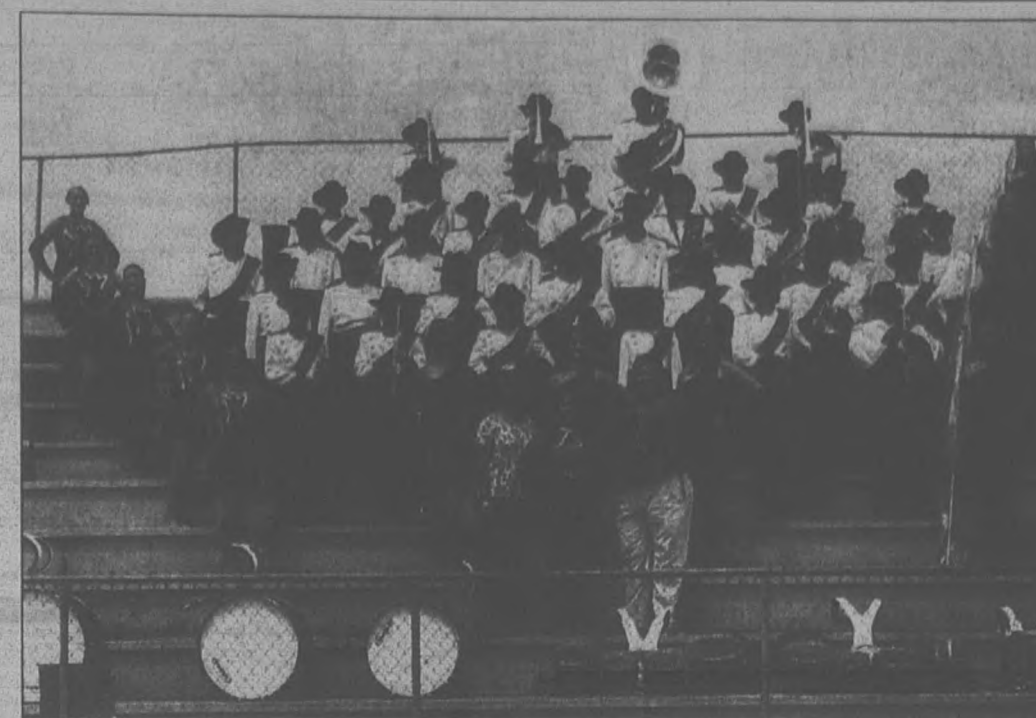
Owner - Sharon Ward

SCHOOLS

FROM THE COCKPIT

New Brockton School News

Sponsor: Lori Cotney



2005 Gamecock Pride Marching Band



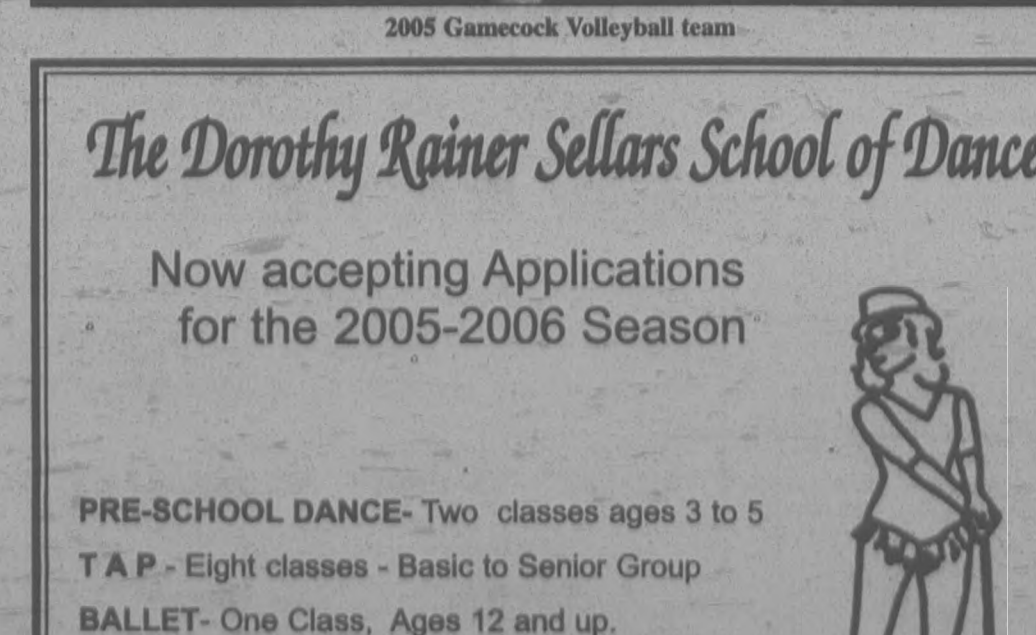
2005/2006 Junior Varsity Cheerleading Squad



Varsity Cheerleading Sponsor Staci Rountree gets ready for football season.



2005/2006 Varsity Cheerleading Squad



2005 Gamecock Volleyball team

The Dorothy Rainer Sellars School of Dance

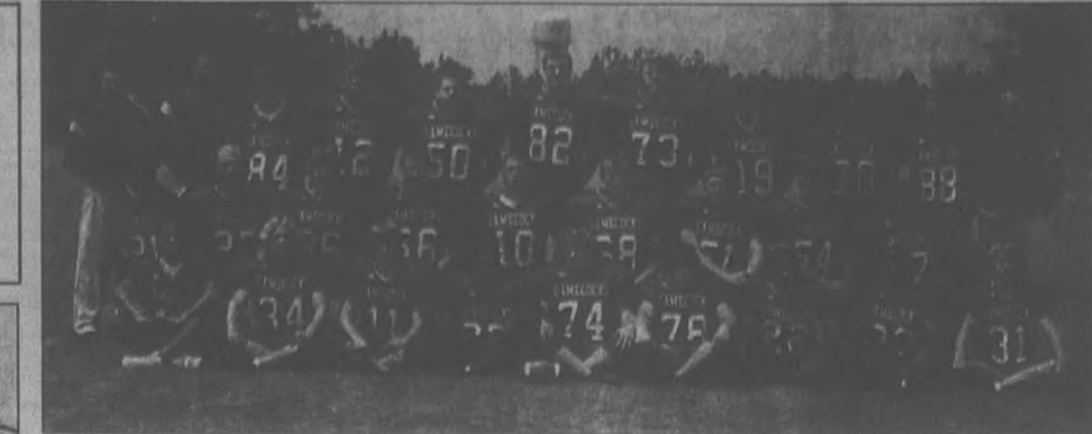
Now accepting Applications for the 2005-2006 Season

PRE-SCHOOL DANCE - Two classes ages 3 to 5

TAP - Eight classes - Basic to Senior Group

BALLET - One Class, Ages 12 and up.

For information, call 1-334-493-4858

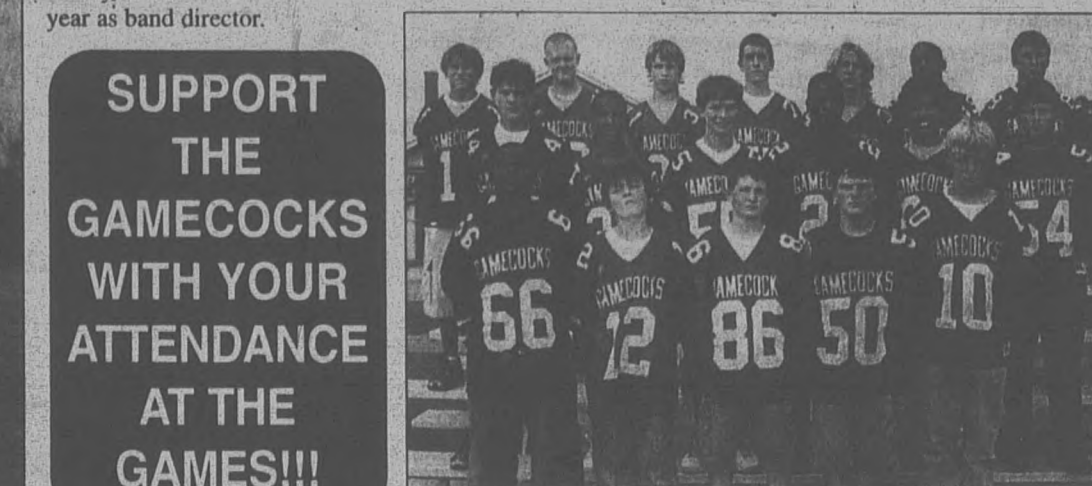


2005 Varsity Gamecocks



Although he has been working with the Gamecock Pride Marching Band for years, Danny Barreto enters his first year as band director.

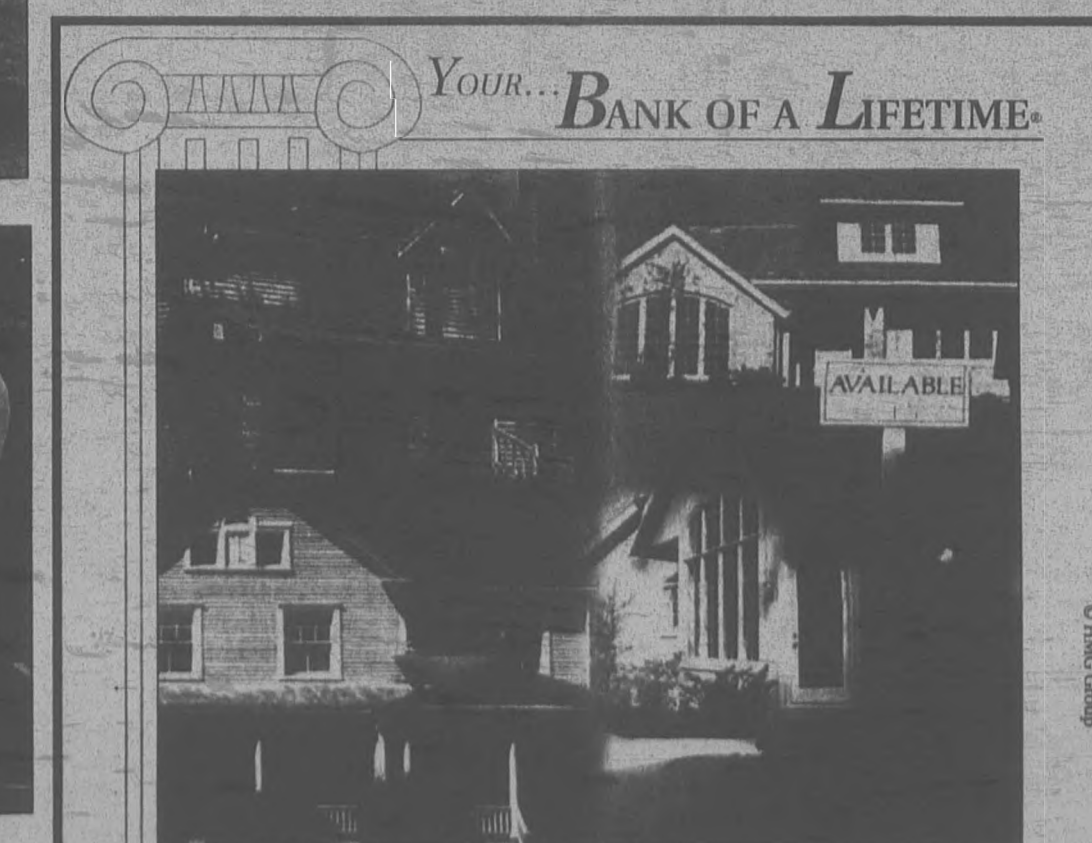
NEW BROCKTON HIGH FOOTBALL COACHES (left to right) - Terry Patman, Head Coach Shannon Clark and Brad Smith



2005 Junior Varsity Gamecocks



2005 Junior Varsity Volleyball



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SPORTS

Views From....
THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

I handle most of the cooking chores around the house and since Melissa headed off to live at college I have tried to see how much cheaper the grocery bill can be with one less mouth to feed. I will admit that I have intentionally cut back on groceries and have noticed a cut in over fifty-percent, and was really proud one night last week when we ate for less than six dollars. There is no way one less mouth to feed in a family of four can make that big a difference, but after three weeks there are less grocery bags to throw away.

ELBA TIGERS OPEN '05 FOOTBALL SEASON WITH UPSET WIN OVER BRANTLEY BULLDOGS

The Elba Tigers gave a big home crowd plenty to cheer about last Friday night as they used the big play to score points and used a bend but don't break defense to upset the Brantley Bulldogs 18-16. The Tigers had defeated the Bulldogs 7-0 back in 2002 at home, which was the last time Brantley had made the trip down Tigertown, but few fans thought this year's team had the ability to pull off the feat once again. The Tigers proved all their doubters wrong with the win and as the seconds ticked off the clock it was days of old as the fans came out of the stands and onto the field to congratulate their players and coaches. There is an old saying in athletics that a team is never as good as one thinks when it wins and is never as bad as one thinks when it loses. I know last week's win was just one win and won't mean anything as far as the region is concerned, but for one night it was like the good 'ole days for the players, coaches and fans of the Black and Gold!

AREA TEAMS ENJOY MIXED RESULTS IN WEEK #1 OF HIGH SCHOOL GRIDIRON ACTION

The opening week of the high school football is now in the books and it was a good week for the teams in the area as the only teams that lost were defeated by other teams from the area. Here's a quick look back....

*** **NEW BROCKTON** - The Gamecocks had two backs rush for over 100 yards as they rolled over Zion Chapel 40-6. There had been a lot of noise coming from out of the New Brockton camp all summer long and after one week it looks like the ones doing the talking knew what they were crowing about.

*** **KINSTON** - The Bulldogs claimed a big 9-6 win over 4A Bullock County to open the season with a win, and while it may be true the Hornets from Bullock County may not be a football power, the 4A school made the trip to Kinston expecting to win the football game. The 'Dogs used a rugged defense and a solid running game to squeak out the win and have to be excited about the season.

*** **ZION CHAPEL** - The Rebels scored on their first possession of the season, but saw very little go right after that as they came out on the short end of a 40-6 decision. The Rebs were expected to have a very good 1A club and may very well be a playoff contender before the season ends. However, last week just wasn't a good time for the players to take the field and take on a team as solid as New Brockton.

*** **BRANTLEY** - The Bulldogs saw their 25-game regular season winning streak come to an end with their 18-16 loss to Elba and fifty five minutes to get back to work against region foes and competitors on getting better each and every week. Brantley still has a very good 1A team and will win its share of games, but found out Friday night that mistakes can often lead to losses no matter how good one might be.

OPENING WEEK OF PREP FOOTBALL SEASON GIVES FANS SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

The high school football season opened last week and as always there were lots of surprises all across the area and state. Here are just a few.

*** Enterprise gave Ronnie Cottrell a rude welcome to high school football by spanking Carroll 29-0, in Ozark. The Wildcats opened up a big lead early and then pulled off the starters to get ready for the upcoming region wars, and also left the Carroll coaches wondering just how good the Eagles may really be.

*** Andalusia, which hasn't had a winning season since 1999, opened with a bang as the Bulldogs clobbered Straughn 35-13. The Bulldogs were expected to be much improved this season and had to be excited about the big win, but one also has to wonder if the long run of success over at Straughn may be coming to an end.

*** Geneva was billed as one of the top teams in the state in 4A and looked every bit the part as the Panthers pounded Dale County 48-6. The Panthers have gotten better and better over the past few years, while the Warriors had a very rough start under their new coach and his 17 players.

*** Houston Academy opened the season with a big bang as the Raiders rolled to a 47-13 win over G.W. Long, on the road. The

Raiders were expected to be a very good team this season, but very few football folks thought they would handle the Rebels so easily in Skipperville. With two backs combining for 295 yards and 5 touchdowns it looks like H.A. may be the team to beat locally in 2A. *** Lovenue was thought to be in a rebuilding mode after losing Coach Mike Dubose, but the Tigers showed everyone they were still one of the top teams in South Alabama with a shocking 35-12 romp over the 4A Opp Bobcats. The Bobcats were expected to be a team to watch this season in the 4A ranks, but either they aren't as good as advertised or the Tigers are ready to challenge for another title. *** And, T.R. Miller struggled in a 28-20 win over Escambia County, Pike County was impressive in a 27-6 win over B.T. Washington and Robert E. Lee got clobbered 32-6 by Tri-Cities, Georgia.

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH....

*** This week is a big week for many players in the NFL as all pro football teams begin making cuts to their rosters. One team that Elba football fans will keep an eye on will be the New Orleans Saints, where ex-Elba Tiger standout Ronald McKinnon may be in a fight for his professional life. I read last week that Arizona is interested in resigning McKinnon if he is cut, but after ten years in the league it looks like Ronald will need a little luck to continue his career.

*** Russ and Janet Wood were at the Elba-Brantley football game last week to accept plaques from the Elba Athletic Club honoring their Dad, the late Coach Mack Wood. The plaque included a photo of the Elba helmets, which this season include a football with the initials "MW" in memory of the Tigers all-time winningest coach. It was especially meaningful to hear Russ say that he will always consider Elba his home town, and it was a great way to start what turned out to be quite a night.

*** The City of Elba has announced plans to seek a grant to make some improvements to both Legion Field and Hawkins-Williams Park. Plans are to build a new restroom facility at Legion Field, to install irrigation in the outfield of the Dixie Boys field and to upgrade the parking lot, while at Hawkins-Williams plans are to totally rework the tennis courts, including the installation of wind screens. All the improvements are needed and will be welcomed by those that visit the parks.

*** The college football season is just around the corner, and while the Alabama fans are hopeful and the Auburn fans are confident, many fans are just ready to have football back on the tube so the junk sports like the X-Games, professional poker and beach volleyball can find their way back to late night on ESPN or some other cable network. For me the kickoff cannot come soon enough.

*** In closing.... the youth football season will open its season next weekend and the three teams from Elba are all looking forward to big seasons. The numbers are up in all the age groups and two of the teams have at least one girl on the roster, and word is that the girls are very talented and will both start. Yep, I knew there was a reason I liked football.

POLISH PROGNOSTICATOR STUMBLES OUT OF THE GATE WITH WEEK #1 PREDICTIONS

Ye Ole Polish Prognosticator seemed more interested in the "Weather Channel" than high school football last weekend when he stopped by the office, and even though the local guesstest did post an 18-8 record last week, he was confident his picks will get more accurate as the season rolls along. I have some doubts, but here we go with week #2....

ELBA VS. COTTONWOOD

The Pea River felines used up a few of their nine lives last week in a big win over the powerful 'pups from across the river and this week will have their paws full again when they invade Bear country.

Post perfect 5-0 record**Kinston wins Set-Off Volleyball Tournament**

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs kept the championship trophy at home over the weekend at the 22nd annual Kinston Set-Off Volleyball Tournament by winning all five of its matches in the eight-team event.

Kinston opened the day's action with a 25-10, 25-3 win over Sunson in pool play, then rallied to top Providence 20-25, 25-8 and 16-14 before defeating New Brockton 25-6, 25-11. The Lady Bulldogs then beat Dothan 25-14, 25-13 to advance to the tournament finals, where they defeated Andalusia 25-10, 25-18 and 25-22.

Kinston was sparked to the tournament title by tournament MVP Heather Marlowe, who had 32 service aces, 54 assists and 13 digs in the five matches. Candace Patterson added 17 kills, 19 digs and 11 service aces for the Lady Bulldogs and joined Marlowe on the All-Tournament team, while other Kinston players having big days included Jesi Johnson with 16 kills and 5' blocks; Courtney Pierce and Kaleigh Sanders with 11 kills, apiece; Haley Spears with 34 digs; Christie Whigham with 11 aces and Caitlin Tindell with 2 blocks.

Also named All-Tournament were Morgan Battey, of Andalusia; Samantha Hicks, of Dothan; Rebecca Dowd, of Providence Christian; and Ashleigh Waddall, of Elba.

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try over yonder in Houston County. The felines showed last week they could be hard to catch, and if they can sharpen their claws another win could be on the way. In an upset!
ELBA 26 COTTONWOOD 22

NEW BROCKTON VS. HOUSTON COUNTY

The Gamecocks made it look easy last week in their big win over the troops from up the road and this week will hit the road and do some Lion hunting over near the Georgia line. While there is no doubt the Gamecocks have their spurs sharpened and will be ready to attack, the guess here is that the Lions are planning for a chicken dinner. Ouch!
HOUSTON COUNTY 20 NEW BROCKTON 13

ZION CHAPEL VS. FLORALA

The Rebels got ambushed last week during their trip across the county and limped back home just in time to get ready for an invasion of 'Cats from near the Florida line. The word is these cats are green and gold and as ornery as an old Momma cat protecting her kittens. I hope the Rebels have plenty of liniment for all the scratches they may get from this one.

FLORALA 38 ZION CHAPEL 16**KINSTON VS. ARITON**

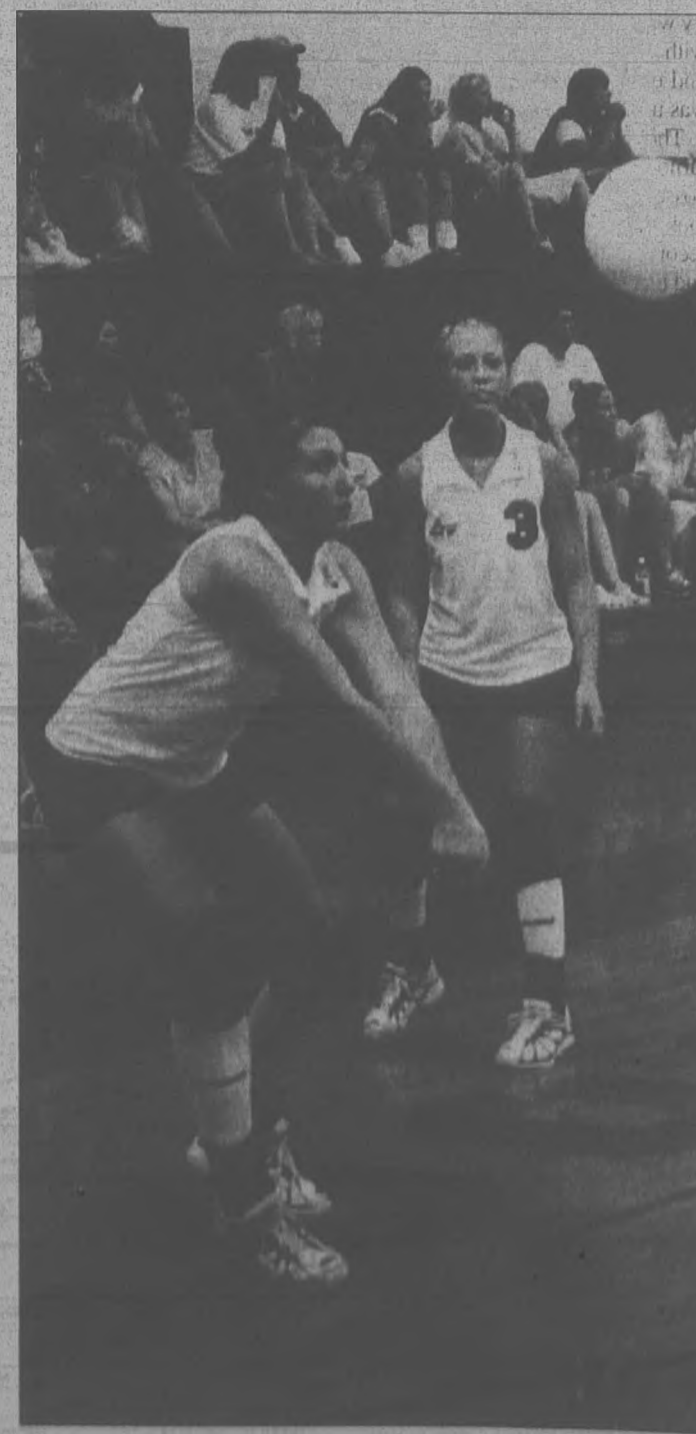
The Bulldogs from down near the county line survived an attack of Hornets last week and now are ready to go hunt some kitties that hang out up river in Dale County. The 'Dogs bite is much worse than their bark, but this week those purple colored kitties may be just a little too fast for the road weary 'Dogs to catch.
ARITON 16 KINSTON 14

BRANTLEY VS. GOSHEN

The Bulldogs from across the river were still growling when they made it back to the pen last week after losing to the felines from down near the Pea and this week have plans to take their pain out on a sickly bunch of Eagles from just over the hill. I'm not sure just how many feathers the Eagles have left after last week's Tiger attack, but what few they do have will be gone after Friday night's bird hunt.

BRANTLEY 47 GOSHEN 0**OTHER PICKS:**

Pleasant Home 29 McKenzie 12
Georgiana 27 Bayside 10
Houston Academy 45 Geneva County 6
Highland Home 33 Beulah 16
Laverne 28 Marbury 7
Wicksburg 20 Sunson 6
Washington County 22 Red Level 20
Dale County 29 Abbeville 18
Slacomb 16 Headland 14
T.R. Miller 31 Straughn 14
Pike County 22 W.S. Neal 8
Andalusia 34 Gulf Shores 17
Trinity 17 Ashford 7
St. James 45 Bullock County 0
Daleville 26 Rehobeth 13
UMS-Wright 28 Escambia County 7
Geneva 27 Opp 21
Shanhope Elmore 31 Carroll 7
Charles Henderson 17 Eufrasia 8
Wetumpka 20 Greenville 12
Auburn 24 Northview 10
Enterprise 35 Dothan 3
Opelika 31 Jeff Davis 14



LADY BULLDOG MAKES RETURN...A Kinston Lady Bulldog makes a return of a serve in last weekend's action at the Kinston Set-Off Volleyball Tournament. The Lady Bulldogs won the eight-team event with a perfect 5-0 record.

(Photo by Laura Basley)

SPORTS

Bulldog defense stands tall in 9-6 opening week win over HornetsBy Scott Johnson
Photos by Mary Johnson

KINSTON BULLDOG FANATICS.... were present at the Kinston-Bullock County football game Friday night to cheer on the Bulldogs in the 2005 season opener. This week the Bulldogs will travel to Arton for a key region encounter.

New Brockton Gamecocks sharpen spurs in big 40-6 romp past Rebels

Statistics and photos by Michael Jerkins



A REBEL DEFENDER tries to stop the Gamecock offense in last week's season opener.

(Photo courtesy of The Southeast Sun)

The New Brockton Gamecocks sent a statement Friday night to all upcoming opponents that they were a team on a mission as they hammered the Zion Chapel Rebels 40-6, at Gamecock Stadium.

New Brockton received the opening kickoff and unleashed its relentless running attack as the Gamecocks marched 51 yards in 10 plays and ate up almost half the quarter to grab an early advantage. The touchdown came on a 10-yard run by Jr. Magwood and the Gamecocks' Heath Danford tackled on the extra-point as New Brockton took a 7-0 lead with 6:37 remaining in the first quarter.

Zion Chapel began its ensuing possession at its own 27-yardline and showed everyone in attendance it too had come to play as the Rebels marched 73 yards and ate up the remainder of the quarter on a long touchdown drive. The score came on a 9-yard pass from Abe Childs to Todd Grant in the corner of the endzone, and although the extra-point try was blocked, with 11:55 left in the second quarter Zion Chapel had cut the Gamecocks' lead to 7-6.

New Brockton began its next series at midfield and this time needed six plays to get back in the endzone. The Gamecock touchdown came on a double-reverse as Sheridan Foster took a handoff then handed off to Jr. Magwood and Magwood sprinted 16 yards into the endzone. The extra-point try was again true by Danford and with 10:18 remaining in the second quarter the Gamecocks' lead was up to 14-6.

The two county rivals swapped turnovers on the game's next two possessions, and the Gamecocks took advantage of Zion Chapel's second turnover of the quarter to pad their lead. The New Brockton score came when Jr. Magwood slipped in front of a Rebel pass and returned the interception 38 yards for a touchdown. The extra-point try was blocked, but with 7:42 remaining in the second quarter the Gamecocks were in command with a 20-6 lead over the Rebels.

New Brockton kicked off to open the second half, but got the ball right back on a Rebel pass and promptly marched 49 yards to add to its lead. Jr. Magwood took a pitch-out and raced 19 yards for the Gamecock's touchdown, and while the extra-point failed it made little difference as the Gamecocks' lead grew to 26-6 with 5:15 remaining in the third quarter.

New Brockton began its next offensive series at the Zion Chapel 31-yardline after a 38-yard punt return and continued to dominate play in the offensive line as the Gamecocks quickly covered the 31 yards to the endzone to add to their lead. The New Brockton touchdown came on a 1-yard run by Sheridan Foster and Heath Danford booted the extra-point as the Gamecocks moved ahead 33-6 with 10:36 remaining in the fourth quarter.

The Gamecocks got the ball right back on the ensuing kickoff as a Rebel return man apparently thought the kickoff would roll into the end zone and watched as the ball stopped at the one-yardline. An alert New Brockton player pounced on the football to give the ball back to the Gamecocks, and on the next play Justin West carried it into the endzone from a yard out to blow the game wide open! Heath Danford again added the extra-point as New Brockton's lead ballooned to 40-6.

The Gamecocks threatened again midway through the fourth quarter after a fumble recovery by New Brockton's Sheridan Foster at the Zion Chapel 24-yardline, but this time the Gamecocks were stopped at the Rebel 6-yardline, and at the final horn the Gamecocks celebrated the impressive 40-6 win.

"Our hats are off to Zion Chapel for what they are going through right now and we wish them the best on their season," said New Brockton's Shannon Clark after the win. "The difference tonight was our speed and we only had one turnover and only two penalties. That is great football! We played the best defense I've seen played in the third quarter by a team in a long time. In the third quarter our line-backers did just what they were supposed to do and stepped up in the holes. It was a great win and a great way to open the season, but next week is a new week and we will have to play hard on offense."

Floralia Wildcats at Zion Chapel
The Zion Chapel Rebels hope the home field advantage will play a major role Friday night when they open region play at home against the high-powered Floralia Wildcats.

The Rebels will bring an 0-1 record into the game after falling to 2A New Brockton 40-6 last week, while the Wildcats will enter the game with a 1-0 slate after an opening week win over J.U. Blackshear 56-14.

Zion Chapel drove the ball the length of the field on its first possession last week and scored a touchdown, but suffered five turnovers in the loss and managed less than 100 yards of total offense after the opening drive. The Rebels also struggled stopping the run in the loss, and know that a much better effort is needed this week against a very good region foe.

Floralia had seven different players score touchdowns and rolled up over 550 yards in total offense in its easy win last week and will be looking to add an early region win to its record this week when it invades Zion Chapel. The Wildcats are led by quarterback Robby Evans and running back Corderus Smiley, a combination that gives the 'Cats a potent 1-2 punch. Evans, considered a major college prospect, runs the Wildcats no-huddle offense to perfection, while Smiley gained over 1,500 yards last season.

Kinston Bulldogs at Arton Purple Cats

The Kinston Bulldogs will hit the road for the first of four straight road games Friday night when they head over to Dale County to battle the Arton Purple Cats.

The Bulldogs will bring a 1-0 record into the region opener after



KINSTON'S GARRET PARKER (10) brings down a Bullock County runner after a short gain. Parker and the Bulldogs held the Hornets to only six points in last week's 9-6 upset win.

helped Kinston reach a first down inside the Hornet 20-yardline. The drive ended when Bullock County's Kenneth Henry picked off a Bulldog pass and two deflected passes by Charlie Hercus and Jonathon Edwards forced another Bullock County punt attempt.

Kinston's David Davis broke through to block the punt and teammate Rob Sanders corralled the loose ball near midfield to put the Bulldog offense right back in business!

The Bulldogs failed to take advantage of the blocked punt, however, as this time the Hornets' Norris Lee picked off a Bulldog pass to give Bullock County excellent field position. Quintavia Walker scored two plays later on a long run down the right sidelines and early in the fourth quarter Bullock County had moved in front 6-3.

Kinston turned the ball over on downs on its ensuing possession, but the Bulldog defense again came through and this time the Bulldog running attack and

Kinston carried the slim 3-0 lead into the dressing room at the half, but came out ready to add to its lead in the third quarter and behind a pass from Parker to McCrummen and a pair of Robert Yates carries the Bulldogs quickly moved across midfield.

Erick Odum and Jonathon Edwards contributed to the Bulldog running attack and

Kinston's Coach Larry Cooley attributed the victory to great team effort and stated that "teamwork is definitely some of the things the Bulldogs can build on."

**Two teams at home, two on road
Region play kicks off for area teams in week #2**

The high school football season will enter week #2 Friday night and that means the teams will all enter region play for the first time. Following is a preview of this week's action:

New Brockton at Houston County

The New Brockton Gamecocks will be looking to claim a big region win on the road Friday night when they travel to Columbia to battle the high-powered Houston County Lions.

The Gamecocks will carry a 1-0 record into the region clash after opening the season with a big 40-6 win over Zion Chapel, while the Lions will enter the game with an 0-1 record after dropping their season opener to 4A Ashford 14-0.

New Brockton threw the ball only once and rolled up almost 250 yards on the ground last week, with Jr. Magwood and Sheridan Foster both running for over 100 yards and combining to score 4 touchdowns. The Gamecock defense allowed an early score, but then took command and limited the Rebels to less than 150 yards of total offense.

Houston County was blanked last week in a loss to Ashford, but the Lions return two of the region's top backs in Seaborn Barber and Tavares Black and can explode at any time from anywhere on the field. Barber gained 1,150 yards and scored 17 touchdowns last season, while Black added 1,090 yards and scored 10 touchdowns.

Floralia Wildcats at Zion Chapel
The Zion Chapel Rebels hope the home field advantage will play a major role Friday night when they open region play at home against the high-powered Floralia Wildcats.

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opening the season last week with a 9-6 win over 4A Bullock County, while the 'Cats will also carry a 1-0 slate into the game after opening the season with a 7-0 win over Wicksburg.

Kinston struggled to a 1-9 record a year ago, but put the pains of that season in the past last week with its big win and rode a huge defensive effort to claim the upset win. The Bulldogs showed good speed from quarterback Garret Parker and running back Jonathon Edwards, while Lee McCrummen and Robert Yates took turns butting heads behind the big Bulldog offensive line.

Arton struggled on offense in last week's win and needed a touchdown on a fumble recovery to escape with the narrow win. The Purple Cats have two quality backs in Patrick Walker and Justin Masters and an elusive quarterback in Zack Sexton, but will go on offense as far as the 'Cats line allows and will have to rely on their defense to carry the load.

Goshen Eagles at Brantley Bulldogs

The Brantley Bulldogs will open region play at home Friday night when they host the Goshen Eagles in the annual renewal of the old gridiron rivalry.

The Bulldogs will bring an 0-1 record into the clash after opening the season with a disappointing 18-16 loss to 2A Elba, while the Eagles will carry an 0-1 slate into the region clash after being pounded by Red Level 47-2 a week ago.

Brantley was plagued by missed opportunities last week in its loss to Elba and on offense saw four scoring opportunities go by the scoreboard due to penalties and its inability to make big plays at the right time.

Goshen has struggled in recent years and that continued last week with the Eagles big road loss at Red Level. The Eagles trailed only 7-0 at the half, but were worn down in the second half and got blown out. Goshen does have quality players in many positions and should be much improved as the season rolls along.

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SPORTS



ELBA'S KIKKO LOGAN (2) looks upfield for room to run as teammates Chase Boutwell (74) and Wade Kindred (55) look for Bulldogs to block. Logan gained 36 yards on 7 carries and made 5 tackles in the Tigers season opening 18-16 win over Brantley and this week will open region play in Cottonwood.

Elba surprises Brantley 18-16

The streak stopped here!

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor
Photos by Mike Capps, Janet Brunson and Laura Baxley

The Brantley Bulldogs came to town last Friday night riding a 25-game regular season winning streak and boasting a lofty ranking in the state 1A polls. However, the high-powered

Bulldogs ran head first into a hungry den of Elba Tigers on the turf at Mack Wood Field and could do little but watch as the Tigers and their fans celebrated in the center of the field as the clock reached :00 and Elba claimed an 18-16 upset win in the season opener for both teams.



TIGER WIDE RECEIVER CHAFIN JOHNSON (3) is off and running after pulling in a short pass in the Elba's 18-16 season opening win over Brantley. Johnson caught two passes for 27 yards in the big win.

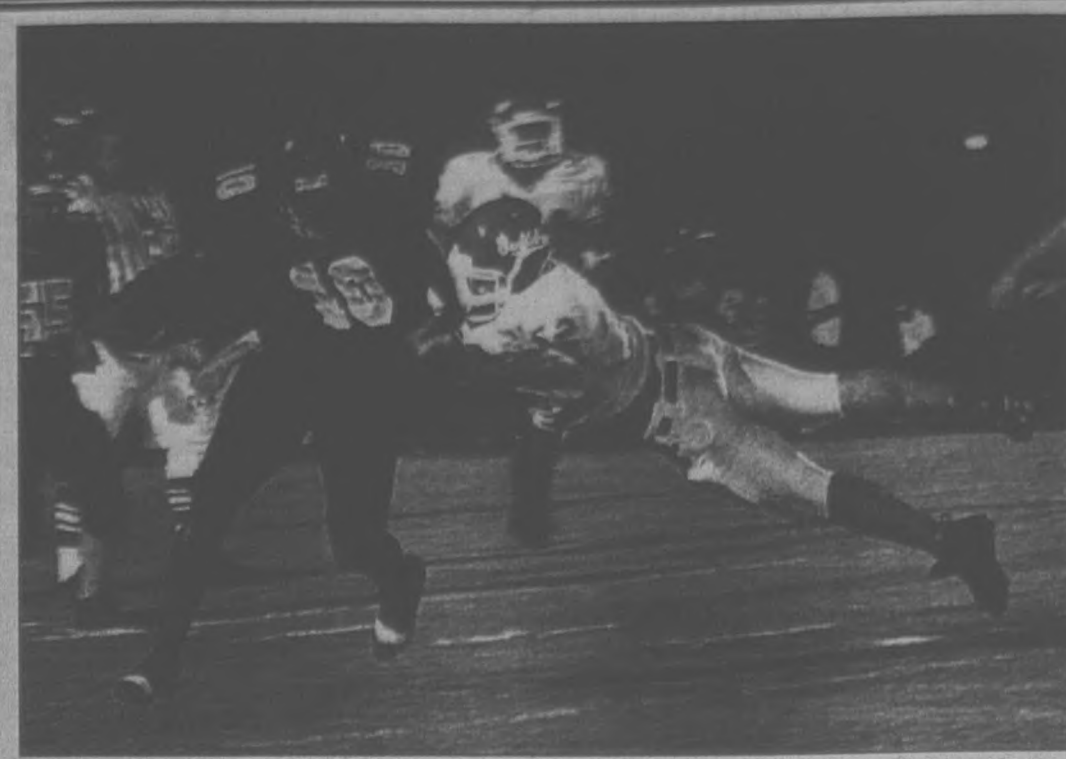


ELBA TIGER HEAD COACH SCOTT RIALS talks with running back Kikko Logan (2) during a time-out in last week's win over Brantley. This week Elba will meet Cottonwood in a key region contest.

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BRANTLEY'S TRAHERN GARROD (52) hangs on to Elba quarterback Brandon Kelley (10) in last week's season opener for both teams. The Bulldogs will kick off region play this week at home against the Arlton Purple Cats, with the kickoff set for 7:00 PM.

The streak stopped here!

Brantley carried the slim 7-6 lead in at the half and came out determined to add to its lead in the third quarter as the Bulldogs forced an Elba punt and then took off toward the Tiger endzone.

Brantley began its initial possession of the second half at its own 27-yardline and in only five plays moved to a first down at the Elba 16. Chris Booker was the work horse during the march and gained 45 yards on four carries to lead the Bulldogs down the field. A five-yard penalty on the next play Edgar Walker dropped back and fired a 30-yard touchdown toss to Shane Corley to put Brantley on the scoreboard. Marcus Owens booted the extra-point and with 9:48 remaining in the first quarter Brantley was on top 7-0.

Elba began its initial offensive series of the night at its own 26-yardline after a 14-yard kickoff return by Kikko Logan and the Tigers answered the Bulldogs' quick score with a touchdown of their own. A 10-yard gain by Kikko Logan on third down and one was a key play early in the drive, while a 13-yard pass from Brandon Kelley to Reymar Rogers gave Elba a first down at the Brantley 37-yardline. The Tigers LaRay Williams took a pitch-out one play later, turned the corner and raced down the sidelines 38 yards for a touchdown to cap off the six play scoring drive. A low snap foiled the extra-point attempt, but with 7:05 still remaining in the first quarter both teams had scored and Brantley owned a 7-6 lead.

The two rivals swapped turnovers on their next possessions with Elba's Rell Kelley intercepting a Brantley pass at the Tiger 31-yardline, and the Bulldog's Dexter Daniels recovering a fumble at the Elba 40.

Neither team threatened to score again until early in the second quarter when Elba marched to a first down at the Brantley 19-yardline. A 14-yard pass from Brandon Kelley to LaRay Williams and a 16-yard run by Kikko Logan got the drive off to a fast start, while a key play in the drive came on fourth down and one at the Brantley 25 when Kelley was stopped behind the line of scrimmage on an option, but jumped above the Bulldogs defenders and lofted a short pass to Stefan Burk for six yards and a first down. Kelley connected on the next play with Mason Gulley for a 12-yard gain. However, the pass completion was wiped out by a penalty, and the Tigers found themselves backed all the way out to the 29-yardline after the walk off. Elba headed back toward the endzone and reached a fourth and five at the Brantley 14, only to see a big hit by the Bulldog's Jeffrey Daniels stop the Tiger drive in its tracks on a big fourth down play.

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SPORTS

Kickoff set for 7:00 PM

Elba Tigers travel to Cottonwood Friday night for region battle against powerful Cottonwood Bears

The Elba Tigers will hit the road Friday night when they travel to Houston County to battle the highly-touted Cottonwood Bears in a key region contest for both teams.

The Tigers will carry a 1-0 record into the clash after an 18-16 season opening win over Brantley, while the Bears will bring an 0-1 record into the game after opening the season with a 28-14 loss to 4A Rehobeth.

"Cottonwood had a very good team last season and is expected to be even better this season," said Elba's Coach Scott Rials. "They got upset last week by

Rehobeth, but all that means is they will be fired up and determined to win this week and will hold nothing back in the region opener. Cottonwood is a lot like us in that they have very good team speed and can score from anywhere on the field at any time. They turned the ball over five times last week in their loss, but you know that won't happen again and I assure you Coach Whitcomb will have his team ready to play Friday night when they hit the field."

Cottonwood posted a 9-5 record last season and was eliminated in the state semifinals by eventual state champion Leroy,

and this season was ranked #4 in the Class 2A preseason poll. The Bears averaged over 30 points a game a year ago and look to be explosive once again, led by halfbacks Michael Curry and Rhy-Shaun Tillman, along with fullback Brandon Outlaw. The trio rushed for almost 2,800 yards and scored a total of 43 touchdowns last season, led by Curry, who gained 1,408 yards and scored 23 touchdowns. Freshman quarterback Dwayne Whitten added even more athletic ability to the Cottonwood offensive attack, and the lefty puts added pressure on the defense with his ability to both run and pass when he sprints out. The Bears return their top two receivers in Ralph Turner and Michael Whiteside, making it clear just why Cottonwood is expected to have one of the top offensive units in the region.

"Our defense played well last week and refused to break under the constant pressure from the Brantley backs," added Coach Rials, "and this week will simply be more of the same. Cottonwood has speed to burn and for us to have a chance to slow it down we will have to tackle well and react to the various formations they will throw at us. Cottonwood is just as fast as Brantley and has just as many offensive weapons, and it will take a maximum effort from us on every play. We will have to slow it down."

On defense the Bears will be led by a trio of returning linebackers in Curry, Outlaw and Tillman, along with tackle Michael Price, the team's leading tackler the past two seasons, and linemen Brad Brackin and Kevin Whitten.

"Cottonwood has excellent speed at linebacker and a big, physical defensive line that can dominate up front," said Coach Rials. "For us to be successful on offense we must be able to be effective both running and passing, and the key may very well be the play in the offensive line. We will have to be physical in the line and play hard on every

snap. We have the overall team speed to make big plays, but we need to be able to drive the football and put points on the scoreboard. We can't just depend on big plays to score points, and that too will come back to the play in the offensive line."

Last week's win over Brantley was big for the players and the fans," Rials added, "but this is a new week and Cottonwood is a region opponent. One of goals is to make the playoffs and this will be the first test toward achieving that goal. We will have to play as good as we can, and improve in just about every phase of the game if we hope to come home with a win. We are a little banged up and have some players that won't be at full speed, but we will go over there to win and will work hard and play hard."

When asked about last week's 18-16 win over Brantley, Coach Rials stated "It was a great win for our young men and for the Elba Tiger fans. The emotion of the fans after the game was unbelievable the way they came out on the field to congratulate the players really meant something to everyone in the program. Our offense had only one turnover and that was a big factor in our success. We made a few penalties that hurt us, but overall we played well on both sides of the ball and played hard on every play. We will have to improve this week in practice and cut back on the mistakes we made, especially on Brantley's two touchdown passes. However, the effort of all the players on the team was as good as we could ask for and that effort will be the key to the season. It was one of the biggest wins in years here at Elba and we hope we can add a few more wins as we go along."

Kickoff for this week's game in Cottonwood, and all games this season, will be 7:00 PM.

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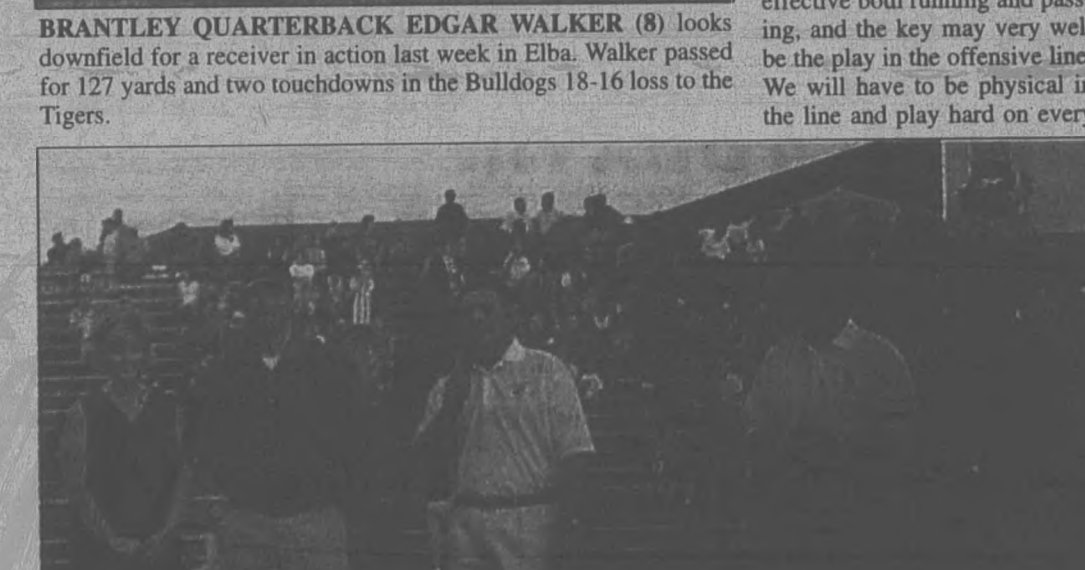
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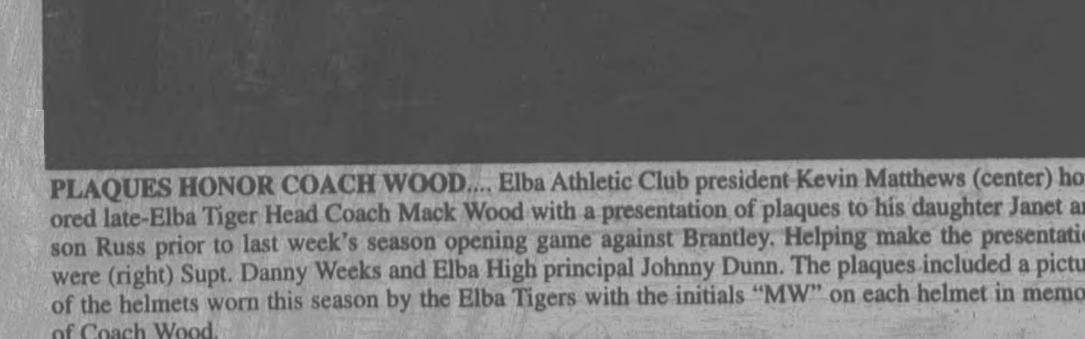
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PLAQUES HONOR COACH WOOD... Elba Athletic Club president Kevin Matthews (center) honored late-Elba Tiger Head Coach Mack Wood with a presentation of plaques to his daughter Janet and son Russ prior to last week's season opening game against Brantley. Helping make the presentation were (right) Supt. Danny Weeks and Elba High principal Johnny Dunn. The plaques included a picture of the helmets worn this season by the Elba Tigers with the initials "MW" on each helmet in memory of Coach Wood.



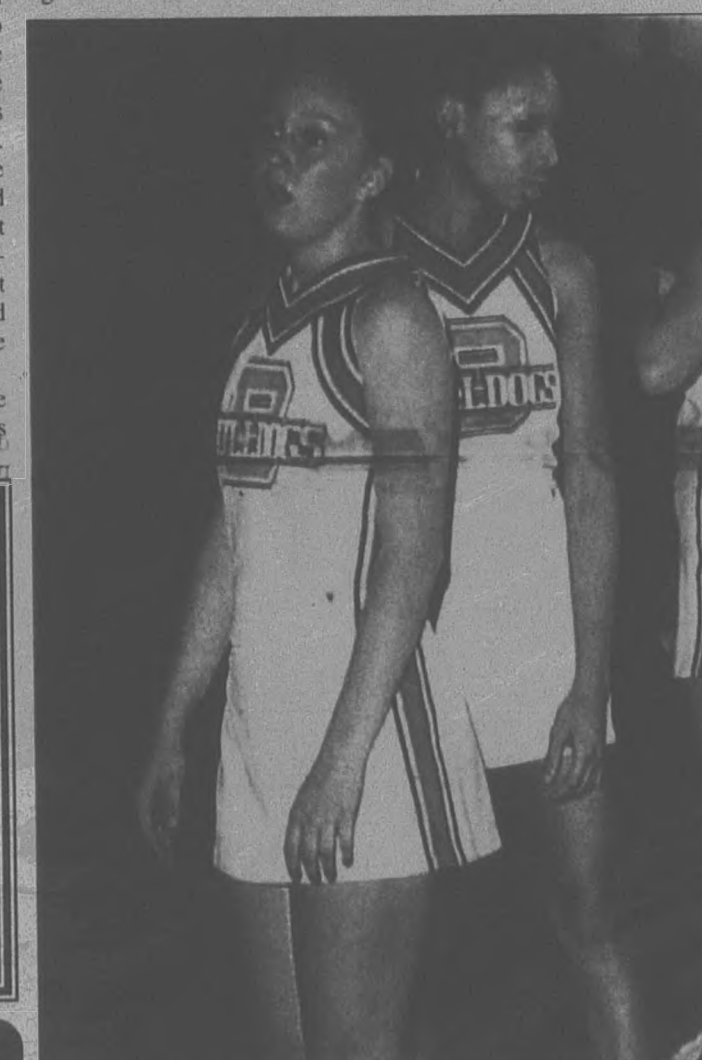
ELBA'S LARAY WILLIAMS (5) heads for the sidelines for a big gain as teammate Chase Boutwell (83) applies a crunching block to a Brantley defender. The Tigers snapped the Bulldogs' 25 game regular season winning streak with an 18-16 win last week.



BRANTLEY BULLDOG RUNNING BACK CHRIS BOOKER (25) attempts to get around the tackle of Elba's Rell Kelley (24) as Tiger teammate Trey Davis (44) closes in. Booker gained 131 yards on 21 carries to lead the Bulldogs on the ground in last week's season opener against Elba.



ELBA CHEERLEADER KENDALL STINSON had an easy time keeping the Tiger fans fired up Friday night in Elba's 18-16 win over the Brantley Bulldogs. Tiger fans are encouraged to travel to Cottonwood this week to support the Tigers in their region opener against the Cottonwood Bears. Kick off is 7:00 PM.



NOT WHAT WE HAD IN MIND! Brantley Bulldog cheerleaders had little to cheer about as the final seconds ticked off the clock last week in the Bulldogs' 18-16 loss to Elba. Friday night the Bulldogs will host Goshen in the region opener for both teams.

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	Alabama Symphony Orchestra	October 18, 2005 • 7 PM
	The Lettermen Holiday Show	December 13, 2005 • 7:30 PM
	Red, Hot... & Blue	January 17, 2006 • 7:30 PM
	Percy Sledge & The Aces Band	February 18, 2006 • 7:30 PM
	Piney Woods Arts Festival	April 8 & 9, 2006
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Season Tickets and Information: 334.347.1617 www.coffeecountyartsalliance.com or E-mail: coffeearts@aol.com		

COMMUNITY NEWS

SAVE

(Continued from Page One)

Blair also said inhalants are a big issue with teens today. "We continue to deal with drug problems in this area," Blair said. "Operation Save Teens is a great, great educational tool. There are many issues parents just don't know about, and this program can help them better understand actions to look for."

Mike Reese, an Alabama ABC agent, will handle the educational and enforcement part of the program. He is joined by Carol Hudson who became involved because her son, Anthony, died as a result of use of an illegal drug.

Blair said she has made it her mission to campaign on behalf of her son so that, hopefully, no other parent or teen will face the tragedy her family faced.

At the conclusion of the presentation, a question and answer session will be held in which local law enforcement personnel and ABC personnel will participate.

"This is a program the students have asked us to bring back," Blair said. "We sponsored it about three years ago, and it really touched a lot of lives. We are looking forward to the upcoming presentation and hope all interested citizens will make the effort to be there Sept. 27th. The life we save could be your son or daughter."

Again, Operation Save Teens will be presented Tuesday, Sept. 27, at 6 p.m. from the Elba High School auditorium. It is open to the public at no charge, and ALL parents, grandparents, students (recommended for 7th grade and up) and concerned citizens are encouraged to attend.

It was Monday morning, and Tad could no longer escape his fate. It was time for him to report to football camp at Dalton City High School. As of today, he would be an Ambassador...for as much as it was worth anyway.

"I'm telling you, son. You really don't want to be late for practice," Tad got some more encouragement to get moving.

Tad and David had been going to the Andrews' home over the weekend. The best he could tell, Coach Andrews was an overall good guy, but Tad wondered if he took his job just a bit too seriously.

"I'm sure things are not going to be easy for you at first," Coach had said to Tad. "But, I know you'll adjust well and fit in with everyone on the team. After all, you're a chip off the old block."

Considering his current opinion of his dad, Tad was not really overjoyed to hear that. "Your dad tells me you're a pretty good athlete. He said the two of you have enjoyed playing different sports together through the years, but you've never actually participated in any team sports."

"Yes, sir," Tad had responded. "This should be quite an adventure for you."

Tad knew Coach Andrews was aware of his past troubles and was surprised when he didn't make a big issue out of it. Actually, the only remark he made that even suggested anything was that he expected Tad to give 110 percent to

becoming a valuable part of the team because there would be no room for slackers on his field.

Tad and David arrived at the school with a few minutes to spare before practice began. They were greeted by Coach Andrews, and he immediately introduced Tad to his new teammates.

It didn't take long for Tad to realize football practice was no fun matter in Dalton City. Every person had a goal to reach and he was expected to work hard every second to make sure that goal was achieved. There also was no special treatment for the new guy. Tad was expected to work at full speed - just the same as any other player.

After hours of working on fundamentals, the first real game was nearing an end. Tad was exhausted. He couldn't understand why anyone willingly would put himself through such misery.

"Bring it in, fellas," Coach Andrews called out. "All in all, I'd say we've had a good day of practice. I am pleased with the effort you guys have been giving, but you know we've got a long way to go. There are a lot of expectations to live up to, and I know if we give it our all we can surpass them all. It's just going to take a lot of work and commitment."

Coach Andrews finished his speech and told the boys to head for the showers. He suggested they get a good night's rest and be ready to work even harder the next day.

Tad grabbed his gear and began walking towards the locker room.

"Hey, man. I'm Eric Vanguard," one of the player's said as he extended his hand to Tad. "Tad," he responded while shaking hands with Eric.

"Things can get pretty intense around here. Just wanted to say welcome."

"Thanks."

"How did you wind up here in Dalton City?"

"My dad's from here."

"Well, it's good to have you..."

Author Linda M. Hodge is a native of Elba, Alabama. Gridiron Pride is produced in partnership with this newspaper. Copyright 2005.

Next Week: CHAPTER THREE
Preparing for the Season

GRIDIRON PRIDE

CHAPTER TWO

by Linda M. Hodge

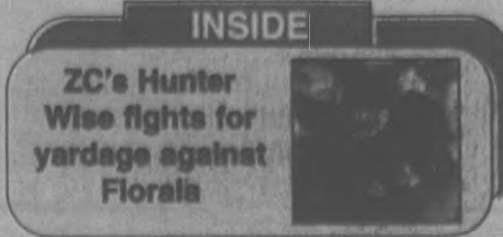


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The Elba Clipper

Volume 109, Number 13

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, September 8, 2005

1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Coffee County BOE members discuss fuel conservation during monthly meeting

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Following suit with many other organizations across the area, the Coffee County Board of Education discussed fuel conservation last Thursday evening, Sept. 1, during the board's regular monthly meeting.

Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram said as of Thursday morning, the schools combined had about 3,500 - 3,800 gallons of diesel fuel in the tanks. She said it takes approximately 2,300 gallons per week to operate the buses.

"We probably have a week and a half with what we have today," Ingram said. "We are on the priority need list with our supplier."

However, she said exactly when the supplier would be able to deliver fuel was uncertain late last week due to Hurricane Katrina.

Until fuel concerns decrease, Ingram said the school system, of course, would make the educational day it's primary concern. She said the system needs to be sure to keep enough fuel to transport the children to and from school.

"More than half of our students ride buses," she said. "If we don't have diesel, most likely parents won't have gas either to bring the students to school."

Ingram assured board members she had spoken with the school system's supplier, and fuel would be delivered as soon as possible.

In regards to football games, she said the groups would combine to cut back on the number of buses currently being used. Also, she said the office personnel would limit travel until concern is lifted.

Ingram also told board members Thursday evening that children who are victims of Hurricane Katrina displaced to the area would be welcome to attend the Coffee County Schools. She said the state department of education will allow local schools to waive restrictions regarding records to

allow the children to return to school.

Board members approved a recommendation from Ingram to award the Zion Chapel roof bid at \$749,008 for the gym and elementary building. Ingram said the system will waive approximately \$25,000 on sales tax through this bid which will bring it down to around \$724,000. She also said the system will receive some money from insurance since both were damaged by a hail storm earlier this year.

Ingram said this job will not begin until Christmas or after, but because of Hurricane Katrina and rising gas prices, she thought it best to go ahead and award the bid.

Out-of-state travel was approved for FFA members at all three schools wanting to attend the upcoming expo in Moultrie, Ga.

During Thursday evening's meeting, board members approved the following personnel matters:

Certified: Accept the resignation of Jenelle H. Smith as business education teacher at Kinston School.



HELPING THOSE IN NEED...The City of Elba and Elba Chamber of Commerce announced earlier this week a desire to help storm victims in the Gulfport and Biloxi, Mississippi area; however, the organizations need the help of the community. Elba Chamber of Commerce executive director Kaye Whitworth (left) said the chamber is serving as a drop off point for donations of items including: bottled water, diapers, baby formula, baby wipes, canned goods (pop-tops preferred), snack foods, paper products, toiletries, etc. She said the city hopes to have a truckload of donations to send to the storm-ravaged area some time next week. Donated items can be dropped off at the Chamber office Monday-Friday (8 a.m. until 5 p.m.). The chamber also is accepting monetary donations on behalf of the American Red Cross to assist displaced families in the Elba area.

Red Cross announces Family Links Registry for storm victims

The American Red Cross has created and launched the Family Links Registry, which will aid individuals who are seeking loved ones and family members in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

The Family Links Registry can be accessed by visiting www.redcross.org or by calling: 1-877-LOVED-IS (1-877-568-3317) to register.

Evacuees wishing to inform loved ones of their location can register their name by clicking on "Family Links Registry" on www.redcross.org or by calling 1-877-LOVED-IS.

Concerned family and friends can register the names of their loved ones and view the list of those people already posted.

Due to the extent of damage and the number of people displaced, concerned friends and family members are encouraged to visit the site daily to consult the list, as it will be updated continuously.

The American Red Cross, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and governmental and non-profit agencies are part of a monumental response to this disaster.

As a team, they are working to alleviate the anxiety of those searching for news of their loved ones.

REMINDER

Chapter Three of Gridiron Pride is located on Page 6 of this week's paper

Helping those hit by Hurricane Katrina

Elba Church of God sends food and supplies to Bayou LaBatre

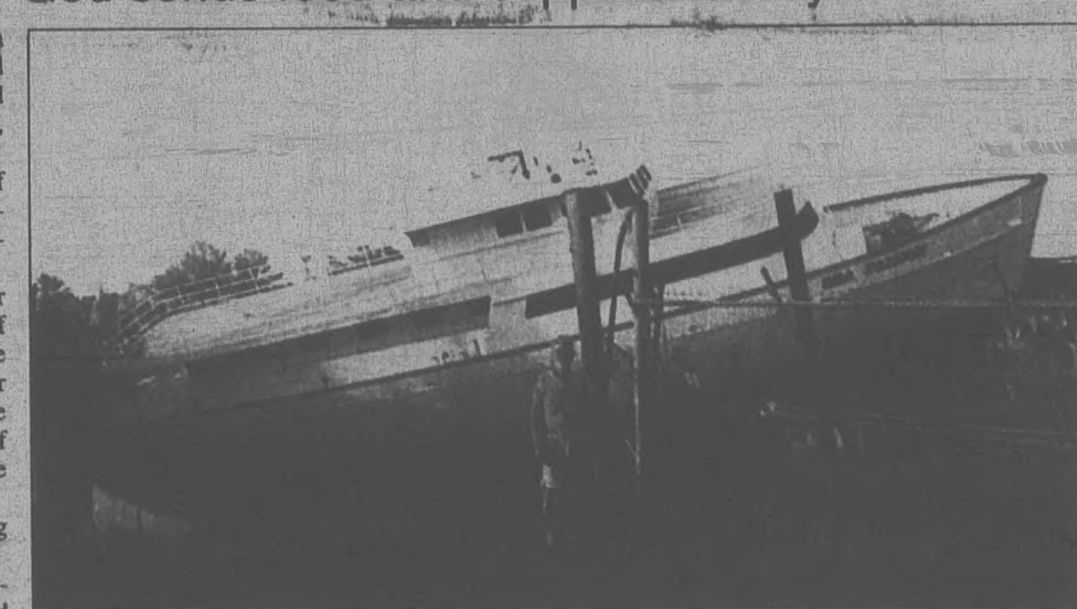
On Saturday, Sept. 3, the Elba Church of God sponsored and delivered 1,500 pounds of food and supplies to Bayou LaBatre, Ala.

The general headquarters of the Church of God also delivered food and supplies in operation compassion.

Bayou LaBatre is in the far western most southern part of Alabama. Oyster industry is the main staple of industry. Over one thousand homes were either destroyed by the winds of Hurricane Katrina or were flooded by the storm surge.

Electricity slowly is being restored in the area.

Elba Church of God is offering assistance to victims and displaced storm evacuees. Food is available to those who need it as long as it lasts.



This boat in Bayou LaBatre, Ala., was lifted by Hurricane Katrina and placed halfway on land. Standing in front of the boat is Bill Washburn, a member of the Elba Church of God. He helped deliver the load of food and supplies delivered to the storm ravaged area.

Elba City Schools' superintendent speaks at Lions Club meeting

Danny Weeks, Elba City Schools superintendent, served Tuesday evening, Aug. 23, as guest speaker at the Elba Lions Club meeting.

In his report to club members, Weeks said both schools, elementary and high, are off to a wonderful start for the new school year due in large part to extensive planning efforts by staff at each location. He praised his administrative staff and the tremendous dedication of the instructional staff, as well as the maintenance, custodial and office personnel.

"We just have dedicated professionals ready and willing to do what is best for our students," Weeks said. "Today, teaching is so much more than a 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. job. It requires extensive planning during and after school hours."

Weeks also informed club members that both schools have shown outstanding gains in academic achievement with the high school scoring 94 percent

and the elementary school reaching 100 percent of the goals required by the "No Child Left Behind" legislation.

He invited the members to visit the elementary school and see firsthand the new Reading Mastery program.

This scientific research-based reading program has proven successful in many other schools across the nation, and Weeks praised the efforts of LaKesha Brackins, Elba

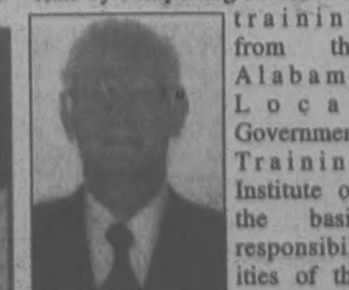
Elementary School principal, Pam Smith, Elba Elementary teacher, Daphne Cook, former reading coach, and new Alabama State Department instructor.

He said these ladies wrote the grant allowing the school to receive the \$300,000 program. He also noted these funds enabled the school system to employ Gina Price to supervise and implement the Reading Mastery program.

County Commissioner J.L. Weeks receives certificate for completing 50 hours of training

Several of Alabama's county commissioners recently joined an elite group of county officials by completing 50 hours of training from the Alabama Local Government Training Institute on the basic responsibilities of the county commission.

These officials were honored on Thursday, Aug. 25, during the Association of County Commissioners of Alabama's 77th Annual Convention's Awards Ceremony. Those receiving a certificate for completing the 50 hours of training included J. L. Weeks of Coffee County.



Elba City Schools Superintendent Danny Weeks (center) spoke recently at the Elba Lions Club meeting. Weeks said he's excited about the new school year and offered only praise for the school system's staff. Also pictured are Lions club members Dr. M.V. Miles (left) and Phillip Curtis (right).

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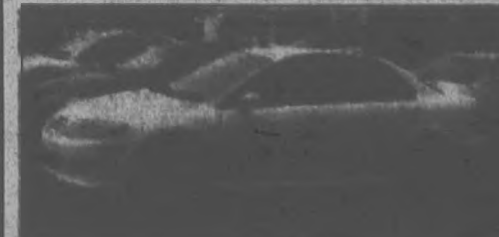
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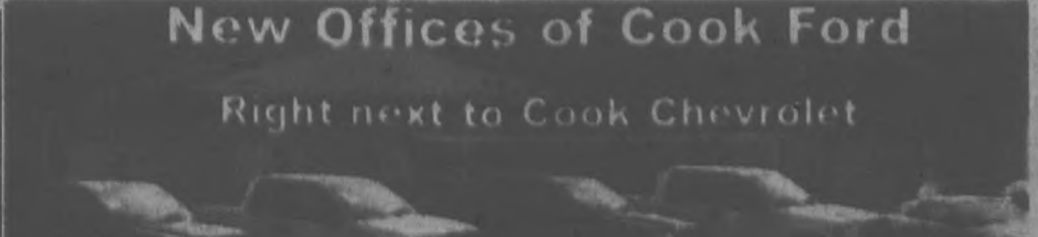
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